The Bombay Gazette. WITH SUPPLEMENT.

No. 69,045.—New Series. BOMBAY:—MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1868. Annual Subscription in advance...Rupees Fifty Two.

THE BOMBAY GAZETTE.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

For year in advance, delivered in Town ....Rs.	52 0
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LOCAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

First insertion ..... 7 As. per line.
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In the Native languages, double the above.
Domestic Occurrences. Each—Rupee 1.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

The Charge for notifying a Domestic Occurrence is One Rupee.

BOMBAY.

Birth.

GILBERT—May 16th, at 39 Newington Crescent, S. London, the wife of Mr. T. H. Gilbert, prematurely of a daughter, still-born.

SHIPPING.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH KURRACHEE.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED), under Mail Contract with Government, and in connection with the Weekly Service from England, dispatch a Steamer to Kurrachee every MONDAY at noon.

The Steam-ship "[illegible]ABAN," 510 tons, 120 H. P., Commander J. C. Sharp, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 22nd June, at noon.

N. B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE PERSIAN GULF VIA KURRACHEE.

(Interchanging Cargo and Passengers at Bussorah, to and from Bagdat, with the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company.)

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED), under Mail Contract with Government, will despatch a Steamer every 14 days, to the Persian Gulf, touching at Kurrachee, Gwadur, Muscat, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bushire, Fao and Bussorah.

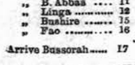
Up.		June.	Down.		June July
Leave Bombay	1 & 15		Leave Bussorah	30	4
,, Kurrachee	6	20	,, Fao	30	4
,, Guadur	6	20	,, Bushire	23	7
,, Muscat	9	23	,, Linga	25	9
,, B. Abbas	11	25	,, B. Abbas	27	11
,, Linga	12	25	,, Muscat	29	13
,, Bushire	15	29		July	
,, Fao	16	30	,, Guadur	1	15
	July.		,, Kurrachee	4	18
Arrive Bussorah	17	1	Arrive Bombay.....	7	21

The Steam-ship "PENANG," 800 tons, 150 H. P., Commander R. Taunton, will be despatched on MONDAY, the 15th June, at noon.

N.B.—No Cargo will be received on the day of sailing.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH THE MALABAR COAST, CEYLON, MADRAS, AND CALCUTTA.



THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY (LIMITED), under Contract with Government, despatch Steamers as above with Mails, Passengers, and Cargo on the following dates:—

Leave Bombay	15	Leave Calcutta	15
,, Carwar	16	,, Bimlipatam	18
,, Cochin	19	,, Vizagapatam.....	18
,, Tuticorin	20	,, Coconada	19
,, Colombo.....	20	,, Madras	23
,, Galle		,, Pondicherry	
,, Negapatam	24	,, Negapatam	24
,, Pondicherry		,, Galle	
,, Madras.....	27	,, Colombo.....	27
,, Coconada.....	29	,, Tuticorin.....	28
,, Vizagapatam	30	,, Cochin.....	29
,, Bimlipatam.....	30	,, Carwar.....	2
Arrive Calcutta	3	Arrive Bombay.....	7

The Steam Ship "SCOTIA," 1,590 Tons, 200 H. P., Commander G. Hamlin, will sail for Carwar, Cochin, Galle, and the usual ports on the Coromandel Coast on TUESDAY, the 16th June, at noon.

The steamers leaving Calcutta and Bombay on the 15th of the month call at Tuticorin and Colombo.

This route is the most expeditious and economical for passengers for the Neilgherry district, Bangalore, and Madras, who can land at Calicut for Beypore, and proceed from thence by rail.

Passengers for Calcutta can take the same route, picking up the steamer at Madras.

Passengers for Rangoon, Akyab or Moulmein can proceed by the steamers of the 15th, and tranship to the Rangoon mail steamer, which leaves Madras on the 3rd.

W. NICOL & Co., Agents.

STEAM FERRIES (under contract with Government).—Steam FERRY BOATS will ply across the Harbour daily, stopping at the undermentioned Bunders:—

Fares from Bombay to	Rewas.	Dharumtur.	Oorun.	Oolwa
	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
First Class	2 0	3 0	2 0	3 0
Second Class.....	0 12	1 0	0 8	0 15
ThirdClass.....	0 6	0 8	0 4	0 6

The Dharrumtur Ferry leaves Carnac Bunder, daily at 8 A.M. and Dharumtur at 1 P.M.

The Oolwa Ferry leaves Carnac Bunder daily at 9 A.M. and Oolwa at 1 P.M.

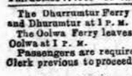
Passengers are required to obtain Tickets from the Bunder Clerk previous to proceeding on board.

J. A. SHEPHERD.

Apollo Street, Bombay, 5th November, 1867.

WEEKLY COMMUNICATION WITH ENGLAND.

On TUESDAY, the 16th June, at 3 P.M., from Mazagon



THE P. & O. Co.'s S. S. "MALTA," (1942 Tons, 500 H. P.) Captain Geo. Hyde, will leave for Suez as above, carrying H. M.'s Mails; also Passengers and Cargo for that Port, Marseilles, Southampton, &c.

Cargo can also be booked through to Trieste, Liverpool, or London.

No Cargo can be received on board after sunset on the day previous to sailing.

Parcels will be received at this Office until noon on MONDAY, the 15th instant.

Passengers are requested to send their heavy baggage to Mazagon, before 10 A.M. on the day of the Steamer's departure, in order that it may be weighed and labelled previous to shipment.

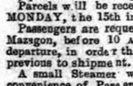
A small Steamer will leave Mazagon Bunder for the convenience of Passengers at 3 P.M. precisely on the day of sailing.

G. F. HENRY, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Rampart Row, Bombay. 10th June 1868.

FOR LONDON VIA HAVRE.

(*With despatch*).



MESSRS. GREEN'S Ship "AGAMEMNON," 1431 tons register, Nicholas Marris, Commander, has an excellent accommodation for Passengers. For further particulars apply to W. NICOL & Co.,

Agents of Ship *Agamemnon*.

Bombay, 18th May 1868.

NOTICE.—Consignees of Cargo, per Ship "M. A. EVANS," arrived from London, are requested to send Boats at once to take delivery of their Goods as they come to hand, otherwise the same will be landed by the Captain at the Consignee's risk and expense. The Captain will not hold himself responsible for any portion of the Cargo after it has left the Ship's side, and for which the Boatmen's Receipts have been taken.

JENKIN DAVIS, Commander.

11th June 1868.

NOTICE.—Consignees of Cargo, per Barque "ADMIRAL DE WINTER," Captain Dill, from London, are requested to send Boats alongside to take delivery of their Goods as they come to hand, failing which they will be landed by the Captain on account and risk of the concerned.

Captain Dill will not be responsible for the condition of any Package after it has once left the Ship's deck.

Delivery Orders, accompanied with Bills of Lading, to be sent to us for countersignature.

BLACKWELL & Co.,

Agents for Captain Dill, Barque *Admiral de Winter*.

Bombay, 30th May 1868.

NOTICE.—Consignees of Cargo, per Barque "WILLIAM PROWSE," Captain Watt, from London, are requested to send Boats alongside to take delivery of their Goods as they come to hand, failing which they will be landed by the Captain on account and risk of the concerned.

Captain Watt will not be responsible for the condition of any Package after it has once left the Ship's deck.

Delivery Orders, accompanied with Bills of Lading, to be sent to us for countersignature.

BLACKWELL & Co.,

Agents for Captain Watt, Barque "William Prowse."

Bombay, 1st June 1868.

THREE PRIZE MEDALS, PARIS EXHIBITION, 1867.

PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c., FREE FROM ADULTERATION,

MANUFACTURED BY

CROSSE & BLACKWELL,

Purveyors to the Queen,

SOHO SQUARE, LONDON.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S well known Manufactures are obtainable from every respectable Provision Dealer in the World.

Purchasers should see that they are supplied with C. & B.'s genuine goods, and that inferior articles are not substituted for them.

To insure thorough wholesomeness, their Pickles are all prepared in Pure Malt Vinegar, boiled in Oak Vats, by means of Platinum Steam Coils; and are precisely similar in quality to those supplied by them for use at HER MAJESTY'S TABLE.

C. & B are Agents for Lea & Perrins' CELEBRATED WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE, and are Manufacturers of every description of Cuisine Stores of the highest quality.

SHIPPING.

OVERLAND ROUTE *vid* TRIESTE.

(*In direct communication with the P. and O. Co.'s Steamers to Suez.*)

THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S MAIL STEAMERS leave Alexandria direct for Trieste *Weekly*, immediately after the arrival of the Bombay and Calcutta Mails and Passengers from Suez. The distance between Alexandria and Trieste is 900 miles shorter than that between Alexandria and Marseilles, and is much more agreeable, it being a coasting trip full of variety of beautiful scenery from the Island of Candia to the Port of Trieste. The passage occupies only 4 to 5 days, and the Company employ on this line their best steamers, built expressly for this service, and with special reference to the accommodation and comfort of passengers, with an experienced Surgeon on board each vessel. At Trieste the traveller to England has an extensive choice of picturesque and interesting routes, occupying from 3 days 6 hours, to 5 days to London, at an expense varying from £7 to £18.

The Railway between Trieste, Calais and Ostend is complete throughout.

The Custom House and Pass-port systems have been considerably modified and need not cause any apprehension of being vexatious or troublesome.

British subjects proceeding from India to Europe, who are not provided with *Foreign-office* Pass-ports, can obtain Pass-ports at the Government Secretariates at Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, or at the British Consulate at Alexandria. Visa to Austria and Prussia are granted by Mr. Gumpert.

Passengers by the P. and O. Company's Steamers to Suez can have their baggage forwarded by that Company's Steamers to Southampton at a charge of 10*s.* per cwt., to which the Austrian Lloyd's Agent at Suez will attend.

The undersigned Agents are prepared to grant Passage Tickets for the Steamers plying between Alexandria and Trieste and for the Railway between Suez and Alexandria.

Rates of Passage Money, including a *liberal* table and stewards fees, from Alexandria to Trieste, *first class* £15, *second class* £10; *children* under 10 years at *half fare*; under 3 years *free*. *Reduced fares* for Families, consisting of no less than three adult members travelling together; *first class* £12 7*s.* 3*d.* per head; *second class* £8 5*s.* per head. Railway Tickets from Suez to Alexandria, with all the privileges of passengers by the P. & O. Co., *first class* £4 10*s.*; *second class* £2 9*s.*; *children* over 3 and under 10 years at *half fare*. Under arrangements made with the Bombay and Bengal Steam Ship Company (Messrs. Stearns, Hobart & Co., Managers), Passengers from Bombay can book through to Trieste at the following rates:—

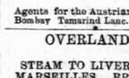
First Class.. £68, 10..
Second Class £37, 5..
} Inclusive of Railway transit through Egypt, but exclusive of Hotel expenses in Egypt and of Wines on board the Steamers.

For further particulars apply to A. C. GUMPERT & Co.

Agents for the Austrian Lloyd.
Bombay Tamarind Lane.

OVERLAND FREIGHT ROUTE.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL, LONDON, TRIESTE, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, VENICE, GENOA, HAVRE, ADEN, AND SUEZ.



THE Bombay and Bengal Steam Ship Company (Limited), under arrangements with other first class lines of Steamers from Alexandria, undertake to give through Bills of Lading for Goods *via* Egypt to the above and most other Continental Ports.

A limited number of Passengers can be accommodated.

Rates of Fare.

To Suez—1st class £45. 2nd class £25. } exclusive
To Trieste.—1st class £24 10*s.*, 2nd class £37 5*s.* } of Wines.

Steamers leave Bombay on the 20th of each month and Suez on or near the 15th.

For Freight or Passage apply to Messrs. Stephen, Kennard & Co., London; Messrs. Tod, Kennard & Co., Liverpool; Messrs. Todd, Rathbone & Co., Alexandria; AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, Trieste and Venice, and Messrs. Fraissinet Pere, et Fils, Marseilles; or to the undersigned in Bombay.

The S. S. "Kishna," 1,500 Tons, will be despatched on the 20th June next.

STEARNS, HOBART & Co.

Bombay, 1st April 1868.

WANTED.

NOTICE.—WANTED, for service in the Government Steam Factory, Dockyard, ENGINEERS and FITTERS. Applications, with Copies of Testimonials, to be made to the Superintendent of Marine,

By order of the Superintendent of Marine,

GEO. INGLE, Secretary.

Superintendent's Office, Bombay, 28th April 1868.

HOUSES, &c., TO LET.

TO BE LET, a cool and commodious HOUSE, with STABLES and GODOWNS, situated in Rampart Row, lately vacated by the P. and O. Company. Apply to EDULJEE FRAMJEE & Co., Bombay Green.

TO BE LET, two OFFICES with GROUND FLOORS in Apollo Street, opposite the Secretariate. The ground floors are well adapted for Shop Rooms, Offices, or Godowns.

For further information apply to Messrs. THOMSON & Co., Chemists, Apollo Street.

SUITABLE FOR OFFICES AND RESIDENCE.—TO LET, from the 1st June next, the FIRST FLOOR, 24 Rampart Row, at present occupied by Messrs. H. CLASON Co. For particulars as to Rent, &c., apply either personally or by letter to Mr. W. COLCLOUGH, General Manager, Treacher & Co., Limited, Byculla.

TO BE LET, the following PROPERTIES, viz.:—

An airy Bungalow (Nepean Lodge) at Malabar Hill, formerly occupied by Mr. H. W. G. Lawson.

The First and Second Storeys of Sassoon Building, in Marine Street, Fort.

The First and Second Storeys of Sassoon Building, in Marine Lane, Fort.

The First and Second Storeys of the House No. 16, in Apollo Street, Fort.

The Upper Rooms of Dady Building, in Meadow Street, formerly occupied by the Office of Mr. Manisty, Solicitor of the High Court, and now white-washed and thoroughly repaired.

One Godown in Dady Building, in Meadow Street.

Apply at the Office of Messrs. DAVID SASSOON & Co.

Forbes Street, 12th June 1868.

NOTICES.

A CARD.—Six or Eight SINGLE GENTLEMEN can be accommodated with BOARDING and LODGING in a healthy locality. The House is large and airy, with the convenience of a large Sitting Room; will do for TWO FAMILIES. For particulars apply to the PROPRIETOR of the LONDON HOTEL, No. 9 Grant Road.

A. ALLAN,

TAILOR AND HABIT MAKER,

STAFF, MILITARY, AND NAVAL UNIFORMS.

17, Apollo Street, Bombay.

A. ALLAN has the pleasure to announce the fresh arrival of NEW STOCK, and from the superior quality of texture and design, he begs to assert that they cannot be surpassed, and at a reduction of prices which will guarantee a SPEEDY SALE.

A. ALLAN makes no pretentions of competing with Native Dorzies or Borahs, but he is prepared to supply the demands of his Constituents with good fitting Garments at a lower rate than any House in Bombay.

CHEAP SUITS FROM Rs. 20 TO 25.

Superfine West of England Black Cloth for Dress or Frock Coats, which for quality cannot be equalled in Bombay.

A splendid assortment of fancy Silk Mixed Coating.

Do. Do. Do. Trousering.

Black, Blue Oxford, and fancy Doeskins.

West of England Tweeds, of every description.

A variety of Scotch Tweeds for Shooting Anglas.

Black and White Moire Antique for Vestings.

White and Coloured Diamond Quilting do.

The new Regulation Patrol Jacket for Staff, Artillery, and Infantry.

Gold and Silver Collar Ornaments.

The new Regulation Staff Corps Belts.

HOSIERY.

New Pattern English made Shirts and Collars.

A choice selection of Silk Scarfs and Neckties from Re. 1

White Silk Elastic and Fancy Braces, from Re. 1.

Sleeping Suits made to order from Rs. 16.

Flannel Shirts do. do. do. Rs. 6.

Cotton Gingham and Silk Umbrellas, 8, 10, 12, and 16 Ribbed.

Best White Kid Gloves, and White Dress Ties.

PARIS EXHIBITION BLACK SILK HATS,

The Paris Hats are the best quality and newest style.

Soft Brown and Spotted French Hats.

Ellwood's Air Chamber Hats and Bombay Staff Corp Helmets.

THE NEW CORK REGULATION HELMET.

Simpson's Patent Sewing Machine. The Queen Maab Do. Rs. 50.

SOLID LEATHER OVERLAND TRUNKS.

New Pattern Scotch Mauds and Balmoral Bonnets.

Railway Wrapper, Travelling Caps & Coupling Straps.

ALLAN'S CYCLONIANS WATERPROOF SUITS, Made expressly to resist the severest weather; warranted not to stick together, and will last for years.

For Waterproof Suits send size of Chest and Height.

A few Waterproof Saddle covers.

Terms—CASH.

Now Ready.

GUIDE TO CANDIDATES FOR THE STAFF CORPS—N. I. BRANCH.

A Complete Series of Questions and Answers on every branch of the above Test.

A Book equally indispensable to Examiners and Examinees.

BY

CAPTAIN N. B. THOYTS,

Acting Brigade Major, Ahmednuggur.

Interleaved with plain paper Price..... Rs. 3 0

Free by post ..... Rs. 3 4

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING & Co.

NOTICE.—P. GRANT & SON, Saddlery Establishment, No. 1, Meadow Street, Bombay.

With reference to the NOTICE which appeared in the *Times of India* and *Bombay Gazette* during the fall of last year, regarding the contemplated closing of our Business, we beg to inform our Friends and the Public in general that circumstances over which we had no control have occurred, causing us to continue the same.

P. GRANT & SON, in returning thanks to their kind Constituents for past favours, solicit a continuance of that support which they have received for the last twenty-five years, and beg to assure them that all Orders entrusted to them will be punctually attended to.

P. GRANT & SON have just received their usual supply of SADDLERY, &c., which is now open for inspection.

2nd April 1868.

NOTICES.

MESSRS. BADHAM & COMPANY, HOSIERS, GLOVERS, AND GENERAL WAREHOUSEMEN.

By Appointment,

Apollo House. Bombay.

SUCCESSIVELY appointed by the late EARLS CANNING and ELGIN, and by the present Viceroy and Governor General of India, His Excellency The Right Hon'ble SIR JOHN MAIR LAWRENCE, G. C. B., K. S. I.

SEASON 67.

Messrs. BADHAM & Co. beg to call the attention of their constitutients and non-constituents to the large Shipments landed. The Goods have been selected personally by Mr. BADHAM at the Paris Exhibition and the best European Markets from prize Goods.

HOSIERY DEPARTMENT.

	Rs.	Rs
BADHAM'S Fine Bro. Cotton Socks, per dozen....	11	to 31
BADHAM'S Superfine Bro. Cotton Socks	16	,, 18
BADHAM'S Balbriggan Socks embossed Silk.....	18	,, 24
BADHAM'S Fine Striped and Fancy Socks.....	16	,, 20
BADHAM'S Spanish Bro. Merino Socks		,, 16
BADHAM'S Superior Grey Merino Socks	16	,, 18
BADHAM'S Superfine Fancy Merino Socks	13	,, 24
BADHAM'S Striped Lisle Thread Socks	16	,, 18
BADHAM'S Fancy and Striped Silk Socks.....	28	,, 45
BADHAM'S Ribbed Knickerbocker Stockings ,,	3	,, 4
BADHAM'S Celebrated Gauze under Vests ,,	3	,, 4
BADHAM'S Celebrated Silk and Wool Vests ,,	4	,, 5
BADHAM'S Celebrated India Gauze Vests ,,	4	,, 5
BADHAM'S Silk and Wool Pants..... ,,	6	,, 8
BADHAM'S India Gauze Pants..... ,,	7	,, 8
BADHAM'S Grey Merino Pants ..... ,,	6	,, 8
BADHAM'S Bathing Drawers Striped and Fancy. ,,	2	,, 3

SHIRT DEPARTMENT.

	Rs.	As.
BADHAM'S White Zephyr Shirts per doz. 50, 55, 60,	65	0
BADHAM'S Dress Zephyr Shirts ,,	75	0
BADHAM'S Pure all Wool Shirts, Shrunk, each ...	10	8
BADHAM'S Pure Silk and Wool Shirts ,, ...	10	8
BADHAM'S Pure Cashmere Shirts ,, ...	10	8
BADHAM'S Spun Silk Shirts ,, ...	12	8
BADHAM'S French Printed Shirts ,, ...	70	0
BADHAM'S Spun Silk Sleeping Suits	25	0
BADHAM'S Cashmere Sleeping Suits indispensable	20	0
BADHAM'S Silk and Wool Sleeping Suits	20	0
THE PRINCE OF WALES'S Colored Shirts a new Material.....	8	8

COLLAR DEPARTMENT.

BADHAM'S Regent and India Collars.. .....Rs.	7	0
BADHAM'S Champion and Belgium..... ,,	7	0
BADHAM'S Calcutta with Tie ..... ,,	7	8
BADHAM'S Continental and Olympic..... ,,	7	0
BADHAM'S Pallmall and Shakspere ..... ,,	7	8
BADHAM'S West End ..... ,,	7	0

FANCY DEPARTMENT.

The Paris Exposition Prize Scarf.....Rs.	4	0
The Royal Windsor for Sailors Knot ,, ... ,,	3	0
The Royal Satin Spot ,, ... ,,	4	0

An immense assortment of all the new Scarfs and Ties.

BRACES.

Guyots French Brace.....Rs.	2	
Guyots Leather Brace..... ,,	3	
Guyots West End..... ,,	2	
The Royal Courier Bag ..... ,,	8	to 12
The Best Silk Umbrellas..... ,,	12	,, 16
The Brighton Walking Stick..... ,,	2	,, 7
The Prize Cambric Handkerchief ..... ,,	18	,, 20
The Prize Colored Cambric ,, ... ,,	14	,, 18
The Hemmed Stitched ,, ... ,,	16	,, 18
White Cambric Handkerchief ..... ,,	10	,, 16

JEWELLERY DEPARTMENT.

Gold Solitaires for Gentlemen .....Rs.	14	to 20
Gold Link Studs..... ,,	16	,, 30
Gold Collar Studs ..... ,,	6	,, 8
Gold Shirt Studs ..... ,,	14	,, 30
Gold Scarf Rings..... ,,	8	,, 12
Gold and Ivory Shirt, Wrist and Neck Sands.. ,,	2	,, 6

Overland Trunks, Railway Portmanteaus of every description, Leather Bags, Leather Hat Cases, Leather Trunks, Railway Wrappers, and Mauds.

PIECE GOODS DEPARTMENT.

Tweeds, Silk and Wool Flannel, All Wool Flanne, French Prints, Manchester Prints, Linens, Towelling, Sheeting, Damask Table Covers, Damask Napkins, Royal Turkish Towel.

THE following GOODS are being sold at BADHAM & Company's Apollo House, at London cost Price.

		Rs. as.
MILITARY Doe Gloves	per pair	1 8
COLLARS Regent	,, ...	5 0
COLLARS with Tie & Fancy	,, ...	5 0
CHRISTY'S Drab Felt Hats	,, ...	5 0
COTTON Socks White	,, ...	10 0
COTTON Socks Colored	,, ...	10 0
UNDER Vests Merino, each	.....	4 0
TRAVELLING Suits	.....	20 0
TRAVELLING Shirts	.....	6 8
FALSE SHIRT CUFFS "Double" per doz.	...	8 0
OVERLAND TRUNKS, Southgate's	.....	25 0
OVERLAND CHAIRS	.....	10 0
RUGS AND MAUDS	.....	16 0
JOUVINS KID GLOVES "Gentleman's"	.....	2 12

Apollo House. BADHAM & Co.

THE ANCHOR LINEN FACED COLLAR.

ONE RUPEE PER DOZ.

Apollo House. BADHAM & Co.

REFUND OF EXTRA PREMIUM.

ALBERT LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ASSURANTS who have paid EXTRA PREMIUM for active service in Abyssinia are requested to send their Policies to the undersigned for Endorsement and refund of Extra Rate as it has been decided by the Head Office in London that the ordinary Tabular Premium was sufficient for the risk incurred.

By authority,

D. McL. SLATER,

Secretary for Western India.

Bombay, 2nd June 1868.

BOMBAY RECLAMATION COMPANY, LIMITED (In Liquidation).—NOTICE is hereby given that the following PROPERTIES will be submitted for SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION (on an early date) unless previously disposed of privately:—

1. MALABAR HILL PROPERTY—measuring about 1,64,662 square yards, has been laid out in 17 building sites, in 7 of which there are large well-built Dwelling-houses with Stabling, &c. Will be sold as a whole or in separate lots.

2. CHOWPATTY PROPERTY—measuring about 7,419 square yards, which belonged formerly to Mr. DADABHAI FRAMJEE, and is registered in the Books of the Collector of Bombay as No. ——.

3. GIRGAUM PROPERTY—measuring about 18,258 square yards, at present used as the Company's Storeyard. There are a substantial Dwelling-house and several large Godowns in this property.

4. COLABA PROPERTY—measuring about 5,384 square yards, together with the large Dwelling-house &c., thereon, at present occupied by Mr. CURSETJEE FURDONJEE.

Offers for the above Properties will be received by the undersigned, from whom all necessary information can be had on application.

JAMES G. SMITH,
JAMES RANKIN, } Liquidators

Elphinstone Circle, 16th March 1868.

ON VIEW AND SALE.—Now Received—Spencer's Patent MAGNETIC PURIFYING FILTER.

This invention, by the discoverer of Electro-metallurgy, is the only one known to science which really *purifies* water. Other modes of filtration do not purify, but merely strain water mechanically. "With the Magnetic Filter, miasmatic, or unwholesome water is impossible." In awarding the Medal for this Invention, the Jurors of the International Exhibition, terminate their report on it to Her Majesty's Commissioners as follows:—

"This Filter, as exhibited by Mr. Spencer, is certainly a very powerful agent of purification, and, it may be added also, is the only discovery made in this century of a new substance of really great importance for the Filtration of Water; it is also one of the most important discoveries tending to reduce the principles of Filtration or Purification, as distinct from mere straining." (Report, page 3.)

Singular as it may appear, this new purifying material never requires renewal, but constantly yields bright colourless water, free from organic or gaseous impurity:—

The following sizes are available:

No. 1	...Rs. 20
No. 2	,, 28
No. 3	,, 38

This Filter especially recommends itself to Native Families with whom Water is the exclusive drink.

Rampart Row. THACKER, VINING & Co.

GOVERNMENT ICE HOUSE, No. 2, Apollo Street. (Established under the auspices of Government and the Ice Committee, with the view of ensuring continuous supplies of AMERICAN ICE at cheap and uniform rates.)

This Ice House already enjoys a very extensive patronage among the Ice-consumers in Bombay, and its vicinity, as well as at the out-stations, who evidently see their own interest in supporting an undertaking that ensures them continuous supplies of this very necessary article at a cheap and uniform price, in lieu of uncertain supplies and fluctuating prices.

Terms of Agreement with the Ice Committee.—The terms of agreement with the Ice Committee that are favourable to the Ice-consumers, are,—

1st.—"That the lessees bind themselves in the most stringent manner to keep up a constant supply of American Ice.

2nd.—"That the selling price shall never in any event exceed an anna per pound."

Out-Station Orders.—Orders from out-stations particularly attended to, whether received by Mail or Telegraph, and Ice will be despatched up-country or down the coast in locked boxes (especially made for the purpose) if required.

Credit Accounts.—Pass Books are issued, and Monthly Credit Accounts opened, for the convenience of constituents, as well as to ensure their receiving the quantity of Ice ordered, which is by no means certain (as, very many cases) when native servants, peons, &c., are sent with Cash in hand.

Shipping in the Harbour.—Particular attention is paid to the prompt execution of orders for the Shipping in Harbour. Pass Books are issued, and Monthly Accounts opened with Commanders of Steamers as well as Shipmasters generally.

Hours of Delivery.—From 6 A.M. until 6 P.M. during the week, and from 6 until 10 A.M. Sundays. *In cases of illness, at any hour, day or night.*

Form of Address.—All communications should be addressed to "The Managers, Government Ice House," No. 2, Apollo Street, Bombay.

NOTICES.

MR. J. NEUBERG.

Has just landed, per "British Admiral," and expect shortly per "Albuera," a Consignment of Printing and Lithographic Presses, Materials, &c. by Hughes and Kimber of London.

IMPROVED ALBION PRINTING PRESSES,

Post folio size	16 by 11 inches	Rs.	220
Foolscap broad side ,,	19 by 14½	,,	325
Demy ,,	24 by 18 ,,	,,	460
Royal ,,	26 by 20½ ,,	,,	530
uper Royal ,,	29 by 21 ,,	,,	575

For the convenience of Purchasers, each Press is supplied free of charge with 3 Parchmenta, 2 Blankets, 12 Yards Girthing, 1 extra spring for head of Press, 2 pairs Press Points.

Iron Ink Tables to the various sizes of Pre sses.

Best Black Printing Ink.

Ink Roller Moulds of sizes.

Brass Rule Cutters.

Best Cast and Wrought Iron Chases of sizes.

LITHOGRAPHIC PRESSES.

27 by 18 inches	Rs. 160
30 by 20 ,,	,, 185
33 by 22 ,,	,, 240
26 by 24 ,,	,, 300

Each Press is supplied free of charge with 2 Ty mpan Leather and 2 Scrapers.

LITHOGRAPHIC STONES.

15 by 21, 12 by 15, 18 by 14, 18 by 24, 19 by 25, 22 by 28, 23 by 33, 29 by 28, 20 by 30, 24 by 32, 26 by 36, 28 by 42 inches.

Prices vary from 2 as. 6 pies to 5 annas per lb.

Zinc Plates for Zincography, Demy size.

French Rollers for Lithographic Printing.

Ruling Machines with necessary fittings.

Ruling Ink, Red and Blue.

Ruling Pen-making Machines.

Mill Board Cutting Machines.

Card Board Cutting Machines.

Perforating Machines, best improved.

Numbering Machines.

Variety of Binding Materials and Tools.

Best English Mill Boards.

Superior White Ivory Card Boards.

Binding Cloth Rs. 20 per Roll of 36 yards.

Mr. J. NEUBERG undertakes orders for Machines, Presses and Materials manufactured by Messrs. Hughes and Kimber, by whom he has been appointed Sole Agent for Western India. Mr. N. expects several Printing and other Machines by an early shipment.

Orders for Types will also be promptly executed. H. and K.'s Illustrated Catalogue furnished on application.

No. 6, Hummum Street, Fort. J. NEUBERG.

COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION OF INDIA AND THE EAST.—NOTICE TO DEFAULTING CONTRIBUTORIES.—NOTICE is hereby given that on all CALLS not paid on or before the 22nd instant, INTEREST will be charged at the rate of 9 per cent per annum from due date, and legal proceedings will be commenced against all defaulters without further or other Notice.

G. F. RIMINGTON,

Attorney for the Official Liquidator.

EIGHTH BOMBAY LAUDABLE SOCIETY.—NOTICE is hereby given that the adjourned EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the EIGHTH BOMBAY LAUDABLE SOCIETY will be held in the Office of the undersigned, on TUESDAY the 16th June 1868, at 3 P.M.

W. NICOL & Co.,
Secretaries and Treasurers.

Bombay 1st June, 1868.

D. S. KEMP & Co's ADVERTISEMENTS.

THEIR BUSINESS is under the management of D. S. Kemp, eight years partner in the late firm of ROGERS & Co., Pharmaceutical Chemists; and has been specially organized for the dispensing of prescriptions, and the importation and manufacture of pure drugs, chemicals, and pharmaceutical preparations. Every appliance has been provided both in the laboratory and dispensing department to ensure correctness and rapidity in compounding medicine, and to facilitate the preparation of remedies of guaranteed purity.

The dispensing of prescriptions is carried on by a staff of trained assistants under the immediate supervision of the manager, and is controlled by a system of check which, he ventures to think, will secure public confidence.

BYCULLA BRANCH.—Messrs. D. S. KEMP & Co., Pharmaceutical Chemists, beg to intimate that they have opened a BRANCH in Bellasis Road, Byculla, opposite the Byculla Hotel, for the dispensing of Prescriptions, and that all Orders for Medicine sent to this address will receive the prompt est attention.

Orders for sundry Goods, if the latter are not in stock, will be forwarded into the Fort for immediate execution.

Bombay, 5th May 1868. D. S. KEMP & Co.

LIEBIG'S NUTRITIVE EXTRACT.—As prepared by D. S. KEMP & Co. from the finest meats is much superior to the imported preparation. Being liquid, it is much more convenient in administration or use; being free from *air bubbles* which abound in the solid extract, it keeps better and in point of *flavor* the latter is not to be compared with it.

5, Bottles Rs. 1-8, Rs. 3, Rs. 5, and Rs. 10 each.

Elphinstone Circle, Bombay. D. S. KEMP & Co.

EVERY TRAVELLER should provide himself with one of D. S. Kemp & Co.'s MEDICINE CHESTS, with which he may in comparative safety encounter any change of climate or other influence obnoxious to health.

They may be had of every size and form; from the large Regimental pattern suited for Contractors, to the small Leather and Oak Chests for private use.

Exploring or Surveying Parties will find them invaluable; Chests are fitted when required with Waterproof Covers and Straps for protection and portability.

Besides having their particular patterns made in England, D. S. K. & Co. employ their own Mechanics here to alter or construct Chests for special purposes as required.

In the absence of special directions from the Physician, Kemp's Medicine Chest Companion, written expressly for the Chests, supplies full and simple instructions for the use of each remedy.

5, Elphinstone Circle, Bombay. D. S. KEMP & Co.

PATENT EXTRACT FOR PREPARING LIEBIG'S MILK.

IMPORTANT TO ALL WHO NURTURE CHILDREN.

LIEBIG'S INFANTS' FOOD.

THE Food commonly sold under this name have several disadvantages, which more than neutralize any benefit from the adoption of Liebig's principle in their preparation.

They contain either Arrow Root or Farinaceous matter in

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHARE MARKRT.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

ELPHINSTONES declined from 760 to 750, but soon advanced to 765, and closed firm at that rate. A sale of 50 Mazagons was effected this day at 800 per share. New Bank of Bombay rose from 19 to 22 premium, old do from 131 to 134, Back Bays from 540 to 555, Colabas from 1,200 to 1,210. Market firm.

BOMBAY BILL AND STOCK LIST.

BANKS.

Subscribed capital.	Nominal Value of sh.	Paid up	Dividend.	Names.	Rates
	Rs.	Rs.	pr sh.		
3,140,000	1,000	1,000	7	Bank of Bengal ..	17801 per sh.
1,045,000	500	400	.....	Bank of Bombay..	134 per share
1,000,000	500	375	.....	Ditto Ditto New..	82 prem.
1,000,000	250	150	.....	Bombay Presi. Bank	102 per share
2,000,010	200	200	.....	Bombay Trading & BankingAssociation	58 per share
2,000,000	100	100	.....	Brokers Banking Company ...	68 per share
1,000,000	250	250	nil	Central Bank ..	3 per share
2800,000	200	200	5	Chartered Bank of India A. & China	185 per share
2800,000	200	25	12½	China Bank ..	5 per share
700,000	250	250		Chartered Mercantile Bank of India London & China..	270 p ct prem.
1,000,000	250	250	12	Comptoirs' Escompte' Paris ..	Nominal.
1,000,000	200	500	9	Delhi and London..	No quot.
500,000	500	200	.....	Indian Peninsular London & China &c.	184 per share
3,750,000	200	1,000	9	Madras Bank ..	68 per cent
1,000,000	250	125	8 p. ct	National Bank of India ...	129 ex di
500,000	250	250	12	Oriental Bank ..	135 per share
	100	200	.....	Royal Bank of India	83 per share
	200	250	.....	Guzerat Bank ...	65 nominal.

FINANCIAL ASSOCIATIONS.

.....	400	Fro	15	Bengal Credit Mob	76 per share
1,200,000	400	120	.....	Financial Assc. of India and China	69 per share

LAND COMPANIES.

1,000,000	10,000	5,000	.....	Back Bay Reclamation Co.	555 per share
1,080,000	1,000	1,000	30 p s	Elphinstone Land Co., ...	765 per share
1,080,000	1,000	400	.....	New Do..	170 per share
2,000,000	10,000	4,100	.....	Frere Land Co. ...	155 per share
100,000	5,000	4,100	.....	Masagon Land and Reclamation Co..	780 per share
.....	2,000	1,380	25 p s	Port Canning ..	355
2,180,000	3,000	3,000	.....	Colaba Land Co ...	1,210

SHIPPING COMPANIES.

800,000	5,000	3,500	.....	Bombay Ship Co ..	2,100 pr shar
380,000	2,500	2,500	25	B. Coast and River Steam Nav. Co ..	425 per share
200,000	5,000	3,500	.....	Bombay and Bengal Steam-ship Co ..	2,375per share
160,000	4,000	2,500	.....	Prince of W. Ship Co	1,600 per share
150,000	500	500	.....	Visgas, Foras Ship & Foundry Co ..	120 per share
	3,000	3,000	250	Union Shipping Co. Limited ...	100 per share

EXCHANGE.

On	Terms.	Rate.
London Banks.. ..	6 months' sight.	1s. 11 15/16d. to 2s. 0d.
Do. Credits..	6 Do. do....	2s.0½d. to s.0¼d.
Do. Documents..	6 Do. do....	2s. 0¼d. to 2s. 0½d.
Calcutta	At sight ..	98½
Do.	30 days' sight..	98
Do.	60 Do. do. ..	98
China	60 days' sight..	210

DAILY COTTON MARKET REPORT.

BOMBAY, 13TH JUNE.

				Per Candy.
Oomrawuttee	..	New	..	235 to 238
Akote..				
Broach..	..	..	..	230 to 232
Dhollera..				
Bhownuggur	..	..	..	238 to 240
Veerawul..	..	..	..	225 to 220
Vingorla..	..	..	..	230 to 235
Dharwar Sawginned	..	..	..	245 to 247
Khandeish ..	..	..	..	225 to 230
Barsee ..				
Ready Sales	...	...	...	475 Candies.
For delivery	...	...	...	,,
Market dull.				

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF BULLION AND COIN.

For the Week ending 16th March 1868.

IMPORTS.	Rs.	EXPORTS.	Rs.
PERSIAN GULF.		CUTCH.	
Silver Coin	65,800	Gold	500
Silver Dollars	3,600	Gold Coin	5,200
		Silver	2,536
CUTCH.		Silver Coin	22,250
Silver Bullion.....	3,600	Rupees.....	21,750
ADEN.		COCANA, BRITISH.	
Gold Coin.....	3,088	Gold	2,560
Silver Coin	7,812	Silver	2,400
		Silver Coin	2,112
Total Gold Rs. " 3,088		Rupees.....	1,52,000
,, Silver ,, 76,812		GUZERAT, BRITISH.	
Total for th week..Rs.	78,900	Rupees.....	1,08,500
		GOA, DEMAUN, AND DIU.	
Previously Imported in the year 1868	1,09,96,528	Rupees.....	1,570
		MALABAR, BRITISH.	
		Silver Coin	3,16,500
Total from 1st Jan. to 16th March 1868	1,10,75,428	Rupees.....	8,200
Dittosame period 1867	1,25,09,709	SOUTH CANARA.	
		Gold Coin.....	4,410
		Rupees.....	39,500
Decrease ..Rs.	0,14,94,272	Total Gold Rs. 12,709	
		,, Silver ,, 4,61,940	
		Total for the week..Rs.	4,54,409
		Previously Exported in the year 1868	42,80,060
		Total from 1st Jan. to 16th March 1868 ..	47,34,469
		Ditto same period 1867.	89,43,792
		Decrease..	42,09,323

CALCUTTA COMMERCIAL, JUNE 8.

Government Papers were in demand, and prices have again advanced. 4 per cents sold at Rs. 5-6 and 5-5 discount, and by the afternoon, there were buyers at slightly higher price. Several large and small amounts of 5 per cents of 1856-57 were bought by different parties at Rs. 9-10 premium. 5½ per cents, sold in the forenoon at Rs. 14-6 and 14-8 premium, and in the afternoon at Rs. 14-12.

Bank of Bengal shares continue in demand at Rs. 1,787½ and such as were offered for sale in the market found ready buyers.

Sales of National Bank shares were made at Rs. 129.

East India Railway Stock.—A small scrip of £240 sold at Rs. 244 per £99.

A transaction in Landing and Shipping Co.'s shares took place at Rs. 90. inclusive of dividend.

Thrbost Indigo Co.'s shares were bought, for an order, at Rs. 99.

A sale of 59 shares in the East India Tea Co., at Rs. 29 each, was reported.

MILITARY.

ARRIVALS.—JUNE 13.

Hawker, Captain, Assistant Commissary General, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Quinnell, Apothecary, Bengal Medical, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Aitken, Colonel, Inspector General of Ordnance, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Johnson, Captain, Hydrabad Cavalry, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Field, Colonel, 10th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Murray, Surgeon Major, 19th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Pierce, Major, 10th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Durand, Captain, 20th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Blowers, Lieutenant, 10th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Goods, Lieutenant, 10th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Wilson, Lieutenant, 10th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Thomas, Captain, 2nd Dragoon Guards, on leave, from England.
Maule, Captain, 14th B. R. A., on duty, from England.
Bradshaw, Lieutenant, Madras Staff Corps, on leave, from England.
James, Major, 19th Regiment N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Cowell, Captain, 6th Foot, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Reeve, Lieutenant, 45th Foot, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Gray, Assistant Surgeon, 26th Foot, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Dacey, Surgeon Major, Principal Medical Storekeeper, on leave, from Matheran.
Marsh, Lieutenant, 23rd Pioneers, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Morant, Lieutenant, 1st Madras Cavalry, on duty, from Abyssinia.
Alexander, Ensign, 26th Cameronians on duty, from Abyssinia.
Begbie, Lieutenant, S. A. C. G., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Langley, Lieutenant, 14th R. A., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Rawle, Lieutenant, 14th R. A., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Greenhill, Lieutenant, 14th R. A., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Fitzroy, Lieutenant, 14th R. A., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Muter, Lieutenant, 2nd G. N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Boyd, Captain, 2nd G. N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia.
Ryves, Lieutenant, 2nd G. N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia
Arnott, Lieutenant, 2nd G. N. I., on duty, from Abyssinia
Mackenson, Major, Bombay Staff Corps, on sick certificate, from Kurrachee.

DEPARTURES.—JUNE 13.

Kennedy, Lieutenant Colonel, R. E., on duty, to Poona.
Atkan, Colonel, Inspector General of Ordnance, on duty, to Poona.
Broadfoot, Lieutenant, 25th R. A., on duty, to Ahmednuggur.

SHIPPING.

DAILY FREIGHT REPORT.—13TH JUNE.

PORT.	COTTON.	SEED.
To London..	£1 10s. 0d.	£1 10s. 0d.
,, Liverpool.....	£1 15s. 0d. to £2 0s. 0d.	£1 0s. 0d.
By Overland Routes..	.....	£50s. 0d.
To China	Rs. 6 to 8 per bale.	....
,, Mauritius	Rs. 1½ per bag.	....

ARRIVALS.

Date.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
June 13	American (s)	Baker.....	Annesley Bay, May 30
	Abrahos	Currins	Liverpool, Feb. 19,
	Caldew	Clarkson	Sunderland,
	North Wind	Currie..	Annesley Bay.
	Phœnix.....	Ingrave.....	Annesley Bay.
	Durham	.....	Annesley Bay May 23
	Decision	Cummings....	Annesley Bay.
	Nile	.....	Annesley Bay May 23
	Dalcon Tower	.....	Annesley Bay May 21
	Malabar	.....	Annesley Bay.
	North Star	.....	Annesley Bay.
	Michael Scott	.....	Annesley Bay, May22
	Caldew.....	London	Annesley Bay, May 23
	Ellen Stuart	.....	Annesley Bay.
	Zulliette.....	Jones	Annesley Bay.
	Star of the North.	.....	Annesley Bay.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
June, 13	Castiglion	Seyer	Liverpool.
	Levanter	Lane	Calcutta.
	Prince alfred ..	Therkell	Havre.
	Castinean ..	Cumming	Liverpool.
	Beann Uamba ..	McCann	Liverpool.

The ship *Mongyse*, Jenkins, to Rangoon, obtained her port clearance on Saturday last.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON SEED.—A quantity of fresh Seed, just received Overland, for DISTRIBUTION, by the undersigned.
PEEL, CASSELS & Co.,
Hon. Agents, Cotton Supply Association.
Bombay, 20th May 1868.

MESSRS. LIEBERT and ROGERSON, No. 3 Crown Court, Old Broad Street, London, and 9 A. St. Peter's Square, Manchester, execute Indents for every description of British and Foreign Manufactures. They also take charge of consignments of Produce for sale. And are prepared to undertake all other Business carried on between England and India on the usual terms. Indents must be accompanied by Bank Credits enabling the full amount of Invoice to be drawn for.

THE FORT POLICE COURTS will be removed, by order of Government, on and after MONDAY, the 15th instant, from the premises in the Dockyard, where they are now held, to the building belonging to Messrs. DAVID SASSOON & Co. in Hornby Row, for many years known as the Fort residence of Sorabjee Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Esquire.
JOHN CONNON,
Acting Chief Magistrate of Police.
Bombay, Fort Police Court, 13th June 1868.

TREACHER & COMPANY, (LD.)
CHEMISTS;
BOMBAY, BYCULLA, AND POONA.

THE PHARMACY DEPARTMENT
Of each of the Company's establishments is under the supervision of thoroughly qualified
EUROPEAN CHEMISTS,
whose particular attention is directed to the preparation and dispensing of Medicines, and to their punctual and expeditious despatch. All new Chemicals and Drugs are procured immediately on their introduction into Medical Practice, which, from their connection with the leading London Houses, TREACHER & Co. are enabled to learn at the earliest. Correspondents may rely upon expeditious attention to their demands, to meet which neither trouble nor expense are spared.

DOMESTIC INVALID APPLIANCES.

Ætnas.	Feeding Bottles.	Nursery Lamps.
Air Cushions,	Flesh Brushes.	Oiled Silk.
Bandages.	Flesh Gloves.	Plasters.
Bed Pans.	Fullers Earth.	Powder and Puffs.
Belts.	Hot Water Bottles	Sponge.
Breast Pumps.	Inhalers.	Spongio Piline.
Elastic Bandages.	Lint.	Smelling Salts.
Enemas.	MedicineMeasures.	Thermometers.
Do. for self-use.	Medical Spoons.	Vaporisers,
Eye Baths.	Nipple Shields.	Waterproof Sheeting.

and an extensive stock of other sundries.

DIETETIC PREPARATIONS
(Infants' and Invalid's Foods, &c.)
IMPORTED BY EVERY MAIL.

Arrowroots.	Liebig's Infants' Food.
Barleys, Pearl and Prepared.	Maccaroni.
	Maizena.
Cocoa.	Milk, Condensed.
Corn Flour.	Oatmeal, Scotch.
Gelatine.	Pancreatine Preparations.
Groats.	Revalenta:
Hard's Food.	Robb's Nursery Biscuits.
Hassall's Flour of Meat.	Sago, Finest Pearl.
Isinglass.	Tapioca, Picked.
Jellies, Calves Foot, &c.	Vermicelli.
Liebig's Extract of Meat.	

MEDICINE CHESTS
in
Leather, Mahogany, Oak and Japanned Tin.
A LARGE ASSORTMENT
Of the most useful and portable patterns—the result of long experience of the requirements of *travellers* and *up country residents*,—suitable for *Individual, Family,* or *Professional* use.

PATENT MEDICINES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS AND CHEMICALS.
(*The only House in the Presidency.*)

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES AND PERFUMERY.

SPECTACLES AND EYE GLASSES,
Cataract, Concave, Convex, Coloured, Railway, Mounted in Gold or Steel;
A LARGE ASSORTMENT; WARRANTED
REAL BRAZILIAN PEBBLE.

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPLIANCES,
by Coxeter, Maw and Son, and others.

Abdominal Belts.	Knives, Amputating.
Amputating Instruments.	Lancets, Abscess.
Arm Slings.	Lancets, Bleeding.
Artery Forceps.	Lancets, Gum.
Aluroscopes.	Midwifery Instruments.
Bougies, Silver.	Needles, Seton and others.
Bougies, Wax.	Pessaries.
Bullet Extractors.	Post mortem Instruments.
Bullet Forceps.	Probes.
Caustic Holders, Ivory.	Sounds, Silver and Steel.
Caustic Holders, Silver.	Specula, Anal.
Caustic Holders, Vulcanite.	Specula, Ear.
Catheters, Gum Elastic.	Specula, Eye.
Catheters, Silver.	Specula, Vaginal.
Cupping Instruments, complete cases.	Sphymographs, Mawry's.
	Splints.
Cupping Glasses.	Sponge Tents.
Dilators, Holtz.	Sponges, Sanitary.
Ear Douches.	Stethoscopes.
Ear Trumpets.	Suspensory Bandages.
Ear Vibrators, Solomon's.	Syringes, Elastic.
Enema Apparatus, Coxeters.	Syringes, Glass.
,, ,, Irrigateur.	Syringes, Vulcanite.
,, ,, Dr. Kennedy's.	Test Tubes, and Racks.
,, ,, Matthews'.	Tongue Depressors.
,, ,, Read's.	Tourniquets.
,, and Stomach Pump Apparatus.	Trocars.
	Trusses, Coles'.
,, ,, Veterinary.	Trusses, Ordinary.
Eyes, Artificial Human.	Trusses, Salmon and Ody's.
Eye Douches.	Trusses, White's Mocmain.
Eye Syringes, Anel's.	Urinometers.
Forceps.	Urinals, Glass.
Hydrocele Instruments in cases.	Urinals, Gutta Percha.
	Urinals, India Rubber
Hypodermic Injectors.	Urinals, Metal.
Inhalers, various.	Vaccine Points.
Knives, Abscess.	&c. &c. &c.

POCKET CASES OF INSTRUMENTS.

TREACHER & COMPANY, (LD.)
ARE
SOLE AGENTS
FOR THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY
for
BISHOP'S CITRATE of MAGNESIA,
the original and best preparation.
BRAGG'S CHARCOAL BISCUITS,
valuable in Dyspepsia, Indigestion, and concomitant disorders.
BRIDGE'S SARSAPARILLA,
acknowledged by high authorities to be superior to all other preparations of the kind.
DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA,
in high esteem for thirty years past as an antacid, corrective, and mild aperient, for Children and Invalids.
LIEBIG'S EXTRACT of MEAT
(Extractum Carnis, Liebig)
Manufactured by
LIEBIG'S EXTRACT of MEAT COMPANY.
The ONLY preparation AUTHORISED to be called by the above name, by the inventor, BARON LIEBIG whose certificate is on every bottle.
This Extract, agreeable to the most fastidious palate, and easily assimilated by the weakest stomach, is beyond all question the most valuable dietetic restorative hitherto introduced.
CAUTION!
The Public are recommended to the use of this particular preparation, as there are sold many others of inferior quality and strength whose effect will but disappoint the Purchaser.
MACDOUGAL'S PATENT
CARBOLIC ACID DISINFECTANTS,
Supplied by order to every Ship in
HER MAJESTY'S NAVY
and extensively and increasingly used by the authorities of
HOSPITALS, JAILS, AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS
of every description.
SAVORY & MOORE'S DATURA TATULA,
An invaluable remedy for Asthma and Bronchial affections.
ETHERODYNE,
Safe and efficacious as a Diaphoretic Antispasmodic and Sedative.
JEREMIE'S SEDATIVE,
highly recommended by the Faculty.
SAVORY & MOORE'S LIEBIG'S FOOD
for Infants and Children,
the best of all the preparations sold under this name.
PANCREATINE PREPARATIONS
for the digestion of Cod Liver Oil.
The effect of these preparations is most remarkable.
TREACHER & COMPANY, (LD.)
Bombay, Byculla, and Poona.

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THE UNIVERSAL BANK and FINANCIAL CORPORATION, LIMITED, (IN LIQUIDATION).—NOTICE is hereby given that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Registered Shareholders of this Corporation will be held on THURSDAY, the 18th instant, at 2 P.M., at the Company's Office, No. 40 Meadow Street, Fort.
To receive the Liquidators' Report and Accounts for the past year of liquidation.
And to consider any other business that may be brought forward before the Meeting.
NARAYEN CRUSTNA LAUD, GOVIND BALCRUSTNA, } Liquidators.
Bombay, 10th June 1868.

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY.—ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION.
In the matter of Act XXVIII. of 1865 of the Legislative Council of India, and in the matter of SORABJEE PESTONJEE FRAMJEE, NOWROJEE NANABHOY FRAMJEE, and MERWANJEE JAMSETJEE, of Bombay, Parsee inhabitants, who lately traded in Bombay under the name, style, and firm of Messrs. SORABJEE and NOWROJEE NANABHOY, and at Kurrachee under the name, style, and firm of Messrs. MERWANJEE JAMSETJEE and COMPANY, and in London under the name, style, and firm of Messrs. S. P. FRAMJEE and COMPANY.
UPON reading the Petition of ROBERT RYRIE, PETER EWART, A. G. LATHAM, and H. E. ASTLEY, carrying on business together at Bombay as Merchants under the name and firm of Messrs. EWART, LATHAM and COMPANY, the Affidavit of H. E. ASTLEY and the Judge's Summons filed herein, and the Affidavits of KESHOWRAO RAGHOBA respectively, and the Exhibits thereto respectively hereunto annexed, and upon hearing MR. RIMINGTON, Solicitor for the Petitioners, and MR. LYNCH, Solicitor for the Trustees of this Estate, I do order that the Trustees of this Estate concur in the distribution of the English Assets of the Firm of S. P. FRAMJEE and COMPANY, and that the CREDITORS of the said Firm of S. P. FRAMJEE and COMPANY be precluded from claiming as such on the Bombay Estate of SORABJEE and NOWROJEE NANABHOY.—Dated this 2nd day of June 1868.
JOSEPH ARNOULD.

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POSTAL NOTICES.

OVERLAND MAILS.—The Overland Mail, per P. and O. Co.'s steam packet, will be closed on TUESDAY, June the 16th, at 2 P.M.; the after-packet at 3 P.M. After-packet letters will not be forwarded unless an 8-anna stamp is affixed to the letter in addition to the postage. Registered letters will be received until 1 P.M. The latest hour for posting at the several Branch Post Offices is 1 P.M.

The Bombay Gazette

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1868.

MR. DISRAELI in a recent speech selected the reproductive character of the literature of the present day as its most prominent feature. The idea uttered by some philosopher or public speaker in England is circulated to all our Colonies by means of the Press. Taken up there, it is modified or repeated until some new mind brings out something else, which in the same way goes over the whole world, possibly changing the prevailing philosophy or creed and very often working its entrance into the cabinets of statesmen and so altering the destiny of nations. It would at first seem, however, as if India were, considering the paucity of books produced here, out of the pale of this influence, or at least at the greatest distance from those tides of thought which oscillate between other countries. The number of books written by men in this country in any given year may almost be counted on one's fingers: and the amount of originality displayed bears so small a ratio to the commonplace part of these productions that we are afraid to state it. Of course, one must exclude from the calculation such periods of personal adventure as the Indian mutiny when most people really had a story to tell. Otherwise, the compilers of "Birds-eye Views," "Six Months in India" "Peeps from a Palki," and such books as "Gup," are in the very common-place position of Canning's "Organ Grinder." The authors add nothing to the store of human knowledge, and seem born only for the encouragement of the pastry or trunk manufacture. Travellers' bungalows, the inevitable murghi, the ill-natured patel, the smart sepoy or peon, Hindoo marriages and religious processions, banian trees and cocoa-nuts, cobras and monkies have been described *ad nauseam*. Nothing new can be said of them, and very few observers have enough acquaintance with the people and their language to give even correct accounts. Still fewer have the art of changing the trite into the entertaining. We have hitherto had no Indian Dickens, although the author of "The Hills and the Plains" (a novel describing Anglo-Indian society) may by his satire and truth merit the title of the Indian Thackeray. This volume is in every way exceptional: the small fry of authors in this line, unable to give the reader a new view of their subject, usually bring themselves to the front and state the impression made on their own minds, which being generally dull and shallow, reflect nothing of value to any one else. The author of "Gup," for instance, describes in detail how she got out of a palki at the end of a stage, and how two subalterns happened to see her. This can scarcely be called interesting in itself; the severe moral she draws against subalterns in general is the inane kind of reflection to which we allude. Again, the statement that a child was born during a march can be interesting only to the lady and her ayah, and perhaps her husband. One or two instances of the serious novel will disgust the Anglo-Indian reader with such things for the rest of his life. The godly Brigadier, who tries to convince the well behaved, but unconverted subaltern, that "in the midst of life we are in death," is a character in keeping only with one of those long wet days an officer sometimes spends in a solitary bungalow in the dreary monsoon. The spinster angling for a husband, or the still more execrable spinster, who betrothed to the said subaltern, is also on the look out for his conversion as a preliminary, are as bad in their way as the milk-and-water heroines who delight the Wesleyan shopkeeper's daughters in their back-parlour readings. Some still more morose writers can never describe a tour without a comparison between the respective merits of the Christian and Hindoo theologies. They delight in besmearing the poor, old, ugly village idol with the weak slime of Exeter Hall. Then the Hindoo woman. Sir Thomas Munro was of opinion that her influence in family affairs was as great, if not greater, than that of the wife in England. But most of our would-be socialists raise their doleful groans on the subject, speaking of her as a sister, abusing the husband as a tyrant, and winding up with the remark that the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty. If these sentimentalists could understand the vernacular language in which Lukshmi or Durgi henpecks her lord and master, they would expend their pity on the husband. Miss Carpenter must have her f

11¼d., Mobile 11¼d., Orleans 11¾d., Egyptian 10d. To-day the sales have been 8,000 bales; market slightly firmer.

My Manchester telegram this evening says that there has been less depression in the market to-day, but no actual improvement in either yarns or cloth.

The exchanges on India this week are almost the same as last. The usual Council Bills were allotted on Wednesday at the Bank of England. The amounts were—to Calcutta £198,100, and to Madras £1,900. The minimum was fixed at 1s. 11d. and tenders at that price received 3s. 8d. per cent, those above in full naturally. In the present state of affairs there is very little doing in silver. Bar is to-day quoted at 5s. 0⅞d. to 5s. 0¾d. per oz. standard, and Mexican dollars 4s. 10⅝d. per oz. Cake Silver 65½. It is expected that from half a million to a million sterling worth of silver will be received from Mexico within the next ten days.

A failure in Manchester was announced yesterday. The unfortunate is Mr. Minos Convelas, a Greek; the liabilities are called something under £60,000, and a favourable liquidation of the estate is expected.

The closing prices on the Stock Exchange to-day are—Consols 93⅛ to ⅜; India Stock (10½ per cent.) 218; India 5 per cents. 116¼ to ⅜, ditto 4 per cents. 102⅛ to ¼; enfaced 4 per cents. 88⅛, ditto 5 per cent. 104, to ½, ditto 5½ per cents. 109; Debentures, 1882 to 104; ditto 1873 to 105¼; the Bonds 20 to 22 premium. Railways—Bombay, Baroda, and Central India 104½ to 105½, ditto F shares ¼ to ¾ premium, East Indian 111 to 112, ditto L shares 1½ to 2 premium; Great Indian Peninsula 109½ to 110½, ditto new 1½ to 1¾ premium; Great Southern of India 104 to 105; Oude and Rohilkund 103½ to 104½; Scinde and Delhi 102½ to 105½; Banks—Agra A shares 10 to 10½, ditto B 7¼ to 8¼; Chartered of India, Australia and China, 17½ to 18; Chartered Mercantile 27 to 28; Land Mortgage of India 3½ to 3 discount; Oriental 41½ to 42½. Miscellaneous—Bombay Gas 4¾ to 4¾; East India Irrigation and Canal 1½ to ¼ discount; Peninsular and Oriental 58¾ to 60, ditto new ¾ to 1½ premium.

POLITICAL LETTER.

(From our own Correspondent.)

LONDON, 22ND MAY, 1868.

THE Ministry has weathered another storm, and Mr. Disraeli, after having this week achieved the unequalled distinction of being beaten twice on important divisions in one night, still holds office as Premier, and remains practically master of the political situation. The country is by this time heartily sick of the whole business, and ashamed of the humiliating spectacle which the House of Commons, night after night, presents to the world. The real truth is that Mr. Disraeli, though it may suit his purpose to get up a sham Ministerial crisis once or twice a week, has not the slightest intention of resigning. He knows he has the sympathies of the Court and of "society" with him, and he will hold on to office to the very last, secure in the conviction that in these day of moral persuasion he cannot be kicked out. The Opposition, on the other hand, while talking loudly about the unconstitutional position of the Ministry and Mr. Disraeli's want of principle, hesitate to give effect to their own doctrine of government by a Parliamentary majority by passing a vote of want of confidence; and Mr. Serjeant Armstrong's motion, brought forward as it appears without the consent of the Liberal leaders, has not the faintest chance of being carried, and is only regarded by even many of the radical members as ill-timed and out of place. Mr. Bright, Mr. Bouverie, and others therefore many chafe as angrily as they may; and independent Conservative members may deplore as bitterly as they like the degradations of their own party in retaining office when they cannot put in force a Conservative policy; but there sits Mr. Disraeli on the Treasury bench, and no one can deny that, so far as the struggle for place and patronage goes, (and that is all he cares for) he has the best of it. Indeed, by adroitly affecting to regard the principle of rating, which is of the slightest practical importance, as the chief element of a Conservative Reform Bill—which cannot be abandoned without the risk of a revolution—he has contrived, not only to give his followers a belief that they still have something to fight for, but so to work upon the fears of further political complications, which are felt by timid members on both sides, that the vote of the House on Mr. Bouverie's amendment, establishing pure household suffrage in Scotland, will probably be rescinded on Monday, and that the Government will be once more invested with a certain *prestige* and show of moral authority. The session, too, is now tolerably far advanced, and though the compromise effected on the Scotch Reform Bill will not save the Ministry from further defeats on other questions, still, having held their ground so far, it is not likely they will be forced to resign this year.

The defenders of the Irish Church still make very free use, though not of course openly in the debates, of the Queen's name, as if it were certain that the Sovereign is on their side; and Her Majesty's perverseness in going off to spend her birthday at Balmoral, while the political world was in such commotion, has given confirmation to the rumour that Lord Derby had, on behalf of the Ministry, pledged his word to the Queen that they would not give way and leave the Church at the mercy of its enemies this session. I doubt the political wisdom of the Conservatives in thus making a hustings' cry of the Queen's name. Nothing could more surely tend to damage the authority of the Crown than for the Sovereign to become a partisan; and it is only such political gamblers as Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli who would dare thus, for their own purposes, to run the risk of lessening the legitimate authority of the chief personage in the State. There is this further consideration—that the Queen's hold over the affections of her subjects has been sensibly weakened by her seven years' seclusion at Osborne and Balmoral. As one of the crowd, when Her Majesty went to lay the foundation stone of St. Thomas' Hospital last week, I was struck with the significant difference between the respectful salutations offered to the Queen and the hearty enthusiasm with which the Prince and Princess of Wales were greeted. Still, even the somewhat subdued cheers of the people were a good deal warmer than Her Majesty would have received a year ago, and there is no doubt that she was beginning to recover some of her old popularity when she took it into her head to go off again to her "dear Highland Paradise." This retirement is bitterly resented by the Londoners, who remark that, although Her Majesty is broken-hearted, she certainly looks as if she still enjoyed thoroughly the good things of this life, and who therefore regard her conduct in breaking up the London season as selfish and unwarrantable. Mr. Rearden's extraordinary notice of motion—the terms of which you will see in this morning's *Telegraph*—calling upon the House of Commons to declare that Her Majesty ought to abdicate in favour of the Prince of Wales is, of course, ridiculed by the newspapers; but it nevertheless expresses very faithfully feelings very many politicians will not scruple to state much more coarsely in the hustings if the Conservatives are unwise enough to put the Queen in the front rank of their army.

Mr. Mackintosh Balfour leaves England by the first mail in June to take up his appointment as Secretary of the New Bank of Bombay, and I think it is desirable the community of Bombay should know all the circumstances attending this appointment. The London Committee of selection—Mr. John Fleming, Mr. A. Grant, and Mr. W. Steven—sent out to Bombay the names of three candidates, of whom one was to be chosen by the local Board of Directors for the Secretaryship, and they stated that Mr. Balfour personally had every qualification for the post, if his long connexion with the Agra Bank was not considered an objection. The news that Mr. Balfour had been unanimously elected by the Bombay Board had only just reached London, when the meeting of Agra Bank shareholders took place, and accusations of a grave character, though expressed somewhat vaguely, were brought against Mr. Balfour by the Managing Director of the Bank. Mr. Fleming and Mr. Steven considered that, having recommended Mr. Balfour, they were bound to investigate these charges; Mr. Grant, on the other hand, held that the responsibility of the appointment rested with the Bombay Board, and that the London Committee had nothing further to do with the matter. Mr. Fleming and Mr. Steven, however, put themselves at once into communication with Mr. Balfour, who obtained for them access to the books of the Bank, placed other documentary evidence at their disposal, and personally gave, at several meetings, explanations on every point of enquiry. The result of the investigation was briefly this: Mr. Fleming and Mr. Steven found that the real charge against Mr. Balfour was that while he was General Manager in London he had sanctioned some extremely objectionable finance business—business indeed of so utterly bad a kind that, if it had been done at his instigation or recommendation, it proved beyond a doubt his unfitness for the post of Manager of a Bank, either in England or in India. But they also discovered that Mr. Balfour could not be held responsible for what had been done with regard to this business. When he came home in 1862 Mr. Balfour was indeed appointed General Manager of the Bank, but it appears that his duties were from the first strictly limited to the management of the *Indian* business and correspondence. The London business was under the management of Mr. Shipman, who, after the amalgamation with Masterman's, had an assistant appointed to aid him with the increased London business, while Mr. Balfour's work remained unchanged. It is true that in his capacity as General Manager Mr. Balfour was cognizant of what went on, but *only after it had received the sanction of the Board of Directors*, with whom Mr. Shipman was in immediate communication, and under whose authority alone he acted. Mr. Balfour's only duty, therefore, with regard to the London business, was to put his name to documents recording the formal decisions (taken documents recording the formal decisions (taken without reference to a consultation with him) of the Board of Directors; and it is on record that he frequently, but vainly, remonstrated—and he had no power to do more than remonstrate—against the conduct of the Board in countenancing transactions of the very kind that brought the Bank to ruin. You will understand that I am not giving, as I am not competent to give, any opinion of my own on this question; I am merely recording the conclusion come to by two impartial and experienced men of business, (in whose judgment people in Bombay will have every confidence) after a long and patient enquiry and much sifting of evidence procured, not from Mr. Balfour alone, but from independent witnesses. Mr. Fleming and Mr. Steven have written a memorandum for the Secretary of State embodying the results of their investigation, and a copy of this memorandum has been sent to the Bombay Board; but as it is necessarily worded very cautiously, so as to exonerate Mr. Balfour without casting imputations on any one else, I have thought it well to go more fully into the merits of the case, as the matter is one of the highest importance to the public of Bombay.

I went up this afternoon with a great deputation of merchants and others interested in Indian affairs to present the following memorial to Sir Stafford Northcote:—

(MEMORIAL.)

LONDON, 18TH APRIL, 1868.

To the Right Honourable Sir STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE, BART., M. P.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council.

SIR,—On the 7th November last, a Memorial was addressed to the Secretary of State for India by certain members of the commercial body of London, in which it was represented that the existing methods of telegraphic communication with India and the East had been showed by a Committee of the House of Commons, in 1866, to be "imperfect in their organization, inefficient in their working, and liable at any time to interruption from political and other causes entirely beyond the control of the British Government."

Since the date of that Memorial, the imperfections of the system have further manifested themselves in so serious a manner, as greatly to increase the general dissatisfaction, and to render very grave and urgent the necessity for improvement.

Accordingly, a large and influential meeting of Merchants, Members of Parliament, and others interested in the question, was held at the Mansion House, under the Presidency of the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, on the 23rd ultimo, and it was then determined to take the earliest opportunity of again pressing the subject on the attention of Her Majesty's Government.

In pursuance of that Resolution, we now address you respecting the great inefficiency of the present system, earnestly hoping that it may receive your early and careful consideration.

We submit that the existing telegraphic communication with the East, by means of the Persian Gulf Cable, to reach which at Bussorah messages must be transmitted through the hands of almost every Government in Europe, from France on the one side to Russia and Turkey on the other, and through a large and very uncivilised portion of the Turkish and Persian dominions in Asia, has been proved by the experience of three years' working, to be altogether inadequate to the requirements of the age.

The Government of India has made great efforts and spent large sums to improve the line; notwithstanding which the delays, uncertainty, inaccuracy, and irregularity in the order of the transmission of messages, continue as great as when the line was first opened.

It may be admitted that very considerable improvement might be effected, were it possible to arrange with the Governments through whose territories the line passes, to have it placed solely under English control, but there would still remain, even then, what we venture to consider an insuperable objection to the present system, viz., that the communications would be liable to be cut off at any moment by the occurrence of some European or Asiatic complication, such as in the existing condition of what is called the Eastern question, cannot be considered in any degree unlikely.

The perfection recently attained in submarine telegraphy offers an easy and complete solution of the difficulty.

A submarine communication from one of the South-Western ports of England to Gibraltar, and thence by Malta to Alexandria, with a cable down the Red Sea and across the Indian Ocean to Bombay, would, with the line through Egypt, which is now under British management, complete an independent British system from England to India, under one uniform management and control, and open to no foreign interruption or interference, except in the short and unavoidable distance between Alexandria and Suez.

Such a line would ensure as much speed, regularity, and accuracy in the transmission of messages between England and India, as at present exists between England and America, and would quickly lead to the extension of telegraph communication to the Straits settlements, China, and Australia.

The reply of the Secretary of State for India to the Memorial of last November seemed to indicate, that, as in his opinion, the improvement to telegraphic communication with the East was a matter primarily affecting the commercial public, the interference of Government was uncalled for.

We respectfully submit, however, that important though the commercial interests involved undoubtedly are, they are only secondary to the great national stake which Great Britain has in the East; and we express the feeling, not of merchants only, but of all in the nation, to take any interest in her Eastern possessions, when we urge that this matter should be treated as an important Imperial question.

One more consideration we venture to urge is, that the establishment and maintenance of efficient telegraphic communication between the various parts of the empire is as much a duty of Government as the maintenance of the postal service.

The attempt to raise, without assistance from Government, sufficient capital to lay a submarine cable from Suez to India has hitherto failed, not from the chance condition of financial credit which a few months may alter, but because the public felt that Government having laid and worked the Persian Gulf line, had accepted the responsibility of establishing effective telegraphic communication with the East, and that it would therefore be risking a rivalry with Government to attempt to establish an independent line,—and further, that the maintenance of the short line through Egypt, involves political risks with which Government alone is competent to deal.

We trust that the great magnitude of the interests involved in this question may justify us in again bringing it before Her Majesty's Government, and in earnestly praying that it may receive that early and favorable consideration to which it is so justly entitled. We would pray first, that the Government should consider the propriety of itself constructing and working the line, or if that be for any good reason declined, that it would at all events express a willingness to assist, in some fitting method, associated private enterprise in carrying out the undertaking. We have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servants.

[Signed by the Lord Mayor and all the principal Merchants of the city, by representatives of Liverpool, Manchester, and other great towns, and by all the Banks, Railway Companies, and other Associations connected with India.]

Sir Stafford, who was accompanied by Colonel Goldsmid, Director General of the Persian Gulf line, received the deputation at half past two. Mr. R. W. Crawford, M. P., was the first speaker. He pointed out the great inconvenience and heavy loss caused to the mercantile community by the unsatisfactory working of the present telegraph to India, and said that no improvement of any kind had taken place since the Parliamentary Committee made its report last year. That Committee gave a distinct recommendation in favour of a line from Falmouth to Alexandria, and from Suez to Bombay, so as to put our communications with India entirely beyond the control of foreign nations. The Government had, however, refused last November to undertake the duty of constructing such a line, and an attempt had been made to raise the money for the Suez and Bombay section by private enterprize without Government aid. That attempt had failed, partly because capitalists did not like to run the risk of competing with the Government line down the Persian Gulf, and partly because they thought, as Government would always have the advantage of priority for their messages, and as the undertaking would bear at least as much of a political as a commercial character, the public treasury ought to take part of the charge of carrying it out, either by means of a guaranteed interest on the capital expended, or of a fixed sum payable for the use of the line on account of public messages. Lord William Hay, M.P., read a memorandum showing the extremely favourable nature of the soundings obtained in the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea, and mentioning the remarkable fact that the temperature of the water at a considerable depth below the surface has been found to be only 33° Fahrenheit in the Indian Ocean, or several degrees lower than in the Atlantic. The worst part of the line was the Gulf of Suez, yet there the cable laid down ten years ago was still in perfect preservation, and could be set in working order at any time. Lord William went on to urge very forcibly the political importance of the line to India and England. Both the alternative lines to Kurrachee, he pointed out, are liable to interruption by political complications in the East—are in fact but one line so far as regards the danger of being rendered useless at the very moment when the power of immediate communication with England would be of incalculable value to the Indian Government. Mr. Cheetham, M. P., protested against having his constituents taxed for a guarantee on the whole capital required. Socially and politically, the line would be as great a boon to the people of Indian as to the people of England; and the Indian Treasury ought to pay half or the greater portion of the cost. Mr. John Fleming said it was a mistake to suppose any one would have to pay money, that is, to be permanently out of pocket, on account of the construction of the line. There was not the smallest doubt that the telegraph, if properly worked, would not only be self-supporting but would yield a large profit. The only question was whether the Government would help the mercantile community to raise, in the first instance the capital required for completing this Imperial work. Sir Stafford Northcote said that, if no line of telegraph between England and India already existed, he might look at this question from Mr. Crawford's point of view. But there were already two lines established, one or other of which he thought, in spite of what Lord W. Hay had said, would generally be left open whatever political complications arose; and besides the Red Sea line would not be entirely secure from interruption in Egypt if war broke out in the East. No one regretted more than he did the unsatisfactory working of the present lines, and the Government were trying to make the service more efficient. By acceding to the European Convention, they hoped to get special wires of their own to Constantinople; then Messrs. Siemens' line was making rapid progress, and in addition a land line would soon be laid along the Mekran Coast to Kurrachee. But he must be frank and say he would do nothing further. The Indian Government was only partly interested in this matter, and the memorialists ought to have gone to the Chancellor of the Exchequer as well as himself to know what the English Treasury would do. But he might add that he knew what the opinion of the Treasury was. The Imperial Government had laid it down as a rule not to give any guarantees to submarine cables, but to give any assistance that might be needed for surveying, &c.; and, that being so, he also must decline, on the part of the Indian Government, to give any guarantee or pecuniary support to the project of a submarine cable from Suez to Bombay. When Lord Derby's Government was in power in 1859, he himself took a strong interest in the proposal to lay a cable from Falmouth to Gibraltar, and the Government actually came to the decision to lay such a cable. Circumstances had since changed, however, and the science of deep sea telegraphy had made such progress, that it was felt such enterprizes might be left to private capitalists to undertake. As far as India was concerned, he owned that the system of guarantees had done good to the country by allowing great and most useful public works to be contructed there; but that system had its bad side, and one of its evils was that it led people to believe the Government distrusted such undertakings as it refused to guarantee. Such was not the case in this instance, and be hoped to see the cable still successfully laid by a company unassisted by any Government guarantee. Mr. Crawford thanked the Secretary of State for speaking out so plainly, and said be hoped, if private capitalists now subscribed money for the undertaking, Sir Stafford would assist them by getting such legislative measures as they might require passed in India. (Sir Stafford nodded assent.) He (Mr. Crawford) further hoped that when the line was established, Government would claim no special privileges for their own messages without paying the Company a fair remuneration for the advantages conferred by it on the public. The deputation then retired. Amongst those present, besides the gentlemen already named, were Sir Charles Bright, M. P., Captain Sherard Osborn, Mr. Cyrus Field, Mr. W. H. Crake, and many others.

J. M. M.

ABYSSINIA.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

BOMBAY, 13TH JUNE.

I KEPT on my return march steadily in advance of the Head Quarters column and did not halt until I reached Senafe on the 21st May, when I determined on giving my horse and mules a rest and getting a portion of my kit washed. I found the station very much improved since I was last there; the watering places both for men and horses had been fitted up in a most complete manner, Commissariat stores and other buildings covered in, and various arrangements made to make things snug for the rains, should circumstances render it necessary for the troops to remain in the country. Fortunately this contingency has been avoided, and ere this the whole of the force has doubtless embarked for their different destinations, Senafe has all along been a favourite station, its situation at an elevation of some seven thousand feet above the sea level gives it a fine bracing air which is highly invigorating; and being within an easy distance from Zoolla the bazaar is well supplied with creature comforts which are more than ever acceptable after having been for so long a period on "short commons." It is awfully jolly to sit down to mess in a really comfortable mess house to a well cooked dinner consisting of several courses containing considerably greater delicacies than Commissariat rations can be made to produce, however skilful your cooks may be. In addition to which an abundance of wines, spirits, and beer were also to be had in profusion. My old friend, Major Roome, Political Officer of the station, gave me a hearty welcome, and it really did one good after so much fatigue and hardship to see the gallant Major's good humoured face only anxious to make you happy and comfortable. I am more than glad to hear that General Merewether, the head of the Political Department, has expressed himself as being highly satisfied with the very able manner in which Major Roome has performed his very arduous and difficult duties. I have reason to believe that Sir Robert Napier has also borne testimony to the valuable aid rendered by this officer.

I was sorry to hear that the young queen of the late King Theodore had died at Eikhullut. I was not altogether unprepared to hear of this event, being aware that Her Majesty had been suffering for some time from general debility, and that Dr. Lumsden had been in professional attendance on her ever since she had been in our camp. I also heard here that Quarter Master Burridge, of the 4th (King's Own) Royal Regiment, had followed the example set by Theodore and blown out his brains with a pistol.

On the morning of the 23rd May I bade farewell to Senafe, and in a short time commenced the descent of the Pass. The zigzag road at the top has been widened and considerably improved since March, so that the artillery had been able to go down "on wheels" without the assistance of the elephants. The "hattis" on my arrival at Rayray Guddy were busily employed in carrying their own forage from the Commissariat stores to the lines. On going down to the watering troughs with my horse I was sorry to find that the supply of the indispensable fluid was scanty indeed. On the following morning I went on to Undel Wells, that once pretty little station did not look near so nice and trim as when I first saw it. Water here too, was far from being abundant, and it was many hours before the animals could be all watered. The next day I set out for Sooroo, and in several places on the way I observed the fearful ravages that had been made by the recent torrents—the road in many places had been completely washed away, and you could see the places on the mountain side where the water had rushed down in tremendous force carrying in its descent large quantities of "mica schist" and leaving large debris of the same in the bed below. The formation of the hills consist principally of this soft and porous material, which is not only brought down by the falling waters, but is acted upon by the rain, which penetrates the same, causing it to swell and burst when it falls down in large masses, sometimes blocking up the roadway where it is narrow. In one place, a short distance from the station, I noticed a spot where the torrent had broken out from its old track and had swept away a large mass of heavy stones. It was evident that a very considerable body of water must have passed along here. At this time there was no water to be seen in the bed of the torrent. On arriving at Sooroo we got our horses and mules picketted in the usual way, when the Engineer officer in command of the station came down and informed us that he had just received a telegram from above, stating that there was a heavy flood at Rayray Guddy. All the horses and mules had to be removed from the lower ground to a place of greater security. The worthy officer in command appeared to make the most of the occasion. He insisted upon the mules being picketted at least some fifty or sixty yards up the hill's side. I made some enquiry about the height to which the water rose on such occasions, when I was informed that there had been sufficient water in the road a few days before to reach up to the horses' bellies and that down below in the narrow part of the Pass it had risen to a height of eight feet. The torrent came down at times with immense force and travelled at a tremendous rate. Fortunately for us on this occasion it took another course and did not come in our direction. Our tents were pitched between the road and the hill where the animals had been removed to on the first alarm, and had the water come down in the manner predicted we should have stood a good chance of being washed away. A party of Madras Sappers, who had come down with me from Senafe, were ordered to proceed at 5 o'clock on the following morning down to the "Devil's Staircase" to repair the road there, and in consequence an order was issued that no baggage animals would be allowed to pass that spot before 10 o'clock. Soon after 6 o'clock in the morning I was standing outside the tent when I saw the water coming down the road. The wave was moving very slowly and was not more than two or three inches deep. This continued for hours, but it was evident that there was no very great body of water behind, as it did not increase much in volume or in force. At this place it was certainly not travelling at the rate of more than two miles an hour. Shortly before 10 o'clock, seeing that the water was subsiding, I sent on my baggage, and as the 3rd Light Bombay Cavalry who had come in that morning from Undel Wells were to go on to Koomaylee at 12 o'clock, I thought it desirable to push on myself. When I got into the narrow part, the "Devil's Bridge," I found the way blocked by mules and camels striving in some places to get along in both directions. Here the road was washed entirely away, nothing being left but huge blocks of stone and large boulders. The pent up waters here rushed down with greater force, and it was only with considerable difficulty that you could get the horses through. On the previous evening a battery of artillery had gone on with the intention of taking their guns through on their carriages, but only succeeded in getting about half way when they had to halt and wait for the elephants. This was not caused by the flood, as they were in advance of that, but by the bad and rough state of the road. In some places where the water was deepest and the road roughest I observed several cart wheels and other broken fragments of Maltese carts which had come to grief. Shortly after this I found that I had come up to the advance wave of the torrent which, now that it had got on to more level ground, was moving along with greatly diminished force and volume. I then pushed on for Koomaylee and as I reached the bazaar was glad to see my baggage already there awaiting my arrival. It was just then that I got a view of Annesley Bay and the shipping in harbour. All my troubles and hardships appeared to be now in a fair way of coming to an end. The weather, however, was very sultry and all kinds of drinks were more than warm until artificial means were adopted to cool them. Even when the sun went down it was too hot and close to remain inside the tent, I however made myself comfortable and had the pleasure of dining *al fresco* with an old and esteemed friend. As it was too hot to eat inside the tent it was of course too hot to sleep there; I therefore had my bed made outside facing the sea and slept soundly till I heard the morning gun on board the flag-ship *Octavia* announce the dawn of the coming day. After breakfast I prepared for my last day's march in this country. Before starting I heard that the whole of the artillery arrived in camp all right during the night. The 3rd Bombay Cavalry and the head-quarters wing of the 10th Bombay Native Infantry also came in safely through the Pass. The day was evidently going to be one of extreme heat, and on descending to the plain both man and beast were rendered nearly incapable of movement by the enervating influence arising from the direct heat from the sun and the burning heat of the scorching sands. Zoolla was only thirteen miles distant from Koomaylee, yet it seemed as though it would never be reached. Whip and spur failed to urge on the poor jaded horse, and at last the effort to apply them became too fatiguing to continue it. The camp could be seen before us nearly all the way, and yet one never seemed to get any nearer; at length the bazaar loomed in sight, and it was with no small degree of satisfaction that I beheld the face of Pestonjee of the firm of Messrs. Pestonjee Sorabjee and Co. Here some comparatively cool drink should be obtainable. It is only on such occasions as these that one really appreciates the luxury of a few minutes rest and imbibes soda pawnee and other kindred drinks with gusto, which to him then appears very nectar. After a short delay I again started, and in a few minutes found myself on the old spot where I had pitched my tent on first coming to Zoolla. When I went up country I was obliged to leave my tent and some kit behind me, I had now the satisfaction of finding all my traps right. I felt more knocked up by this day's march than I had often been by many a longer one in the front. I here heard alarming accounts of the fearful heat which prevailed in the daytime; inside the tents the thermometer was reported to have stood at 110° and when it fell to 100° it was of course considered moderately cool and comparatively refreshing.

Zoolla was now the scene of great activity, the railway was bringing in train after train of troops, who were taken down to the bunder and immediately embarked. The Quarter Master General's Department here had a fearful amount of work thrown upon their hands, but notwithstanding the heat, dust, and labour, they were fully equal to the task. I was anxious to secure a passage to Bombay at once, but I found considerable difficulty in finding any one to apply to, as on enquiring at the office I was informed that they were all away superintending the embarkation of troops. At length I was fortunate enough to see Major Roberts, Assistant Quaster Master General, who at once granted me a passage on board the steamship *American*, for myself, two servants, and the horse. The *American* was to have sailed early that morning, but the Major told me that he had reason to believe that she had not yet left and that if I looked sharp I might yet be in time to catch her. I thereupon went back to my tent, arranged the packing of my traps and prepared everything for a start. I had occasion to call at the Commissariat Stores, where I was informed that the *American* had positively sailed early that morning. I then proceeded to the Bunder Master's office where I was also told that the *American* had left, but one of the officials kindly offered to go outside and ascertain if anything was yet to be seen of her. To my infinite delight and satisfaction he at last discovered her lying outside the shipping and pointed out to me a large steamer painted white with two red funnels; smoke however was issuing from the same, so I admonished me to be active lest I should be too late. Returning to camp I started off the baggage and horse and having partook of tiffin followed myself. On reaching the bunder I found it impossible to get a boat to take the horse off to the steamer, but as a tender was alongside shipping horses belonging to the 12th Bengal Cavalry I was advised to send the horse on board the ship *Underley* with them. I thereupon wrote a chit and sent the old horse and gorawallah off, as the only chance left. I sincerely hope that they will arrive here in due course. Having procured a boat I started for the *American*, and as she lay a long way out I was fearful that I should not be able to reach her in time. She appeared to be getting up steam. I urged the Somali boatmen to make more speed, which they thought to be a good opportunity to put in a claim for *bukshees*h, which of course I promised. At length we got alongside and then on board. The worthy captain did not expect any more passengers and politely told me that he was afraid that there was not a cabin or berth unoccupied. I assured him that I should be but too happy to turn in with any accommodation that the ship could afford me. I now ascertained that there was the head-quarters wing of the 10th Bombay Native Infantry on board with six officers and also two other officers. An officer of the Quarter Master General's Department was there on duty and his boat was waiting astern of the steamer. I now found that it was not the intention of the captain to sail that evening as he had two ships, the *Queen of Australia* and the *Star of the North*, with the 3rd Bombay Native Cavalry on board, to tow to Aden. With the view, however, of sailing early in the morning it was deemed advisable to shift her berth; thereupon preparations were made to do so, the anchor was weighed and the screw put in motion, when it was discovered that the Quarter Master General's boat was still astern and that her "painter" had got foul of the fan. In another minute the boat was swamped but the painter was as yet unbroken. Only two out of four of the boat's crew could be seen who were hanging on to the stern of the steamer like grim death. The engines were promptly stopped, but a considerable time elapsed before the boat could be cut away; when this was done she immediately floated to the surface of the water. It was then discovered that the two missing men were on board the steamer comfortably taking a smoke and apparently quite unaware of what had happened. This over, the steamer was taken out to the situation desired, and everything being made snug for the night when we went down into the saloon to dinner. At night it was so hot and close below that the majority of us slept on deck. In the morning at dawn the anchors were weighed and at 5 o'clock the good steamer *American* with her consorts in tow started for Aden. We were all but too glad to leave the Bay and to find ourselves once more afloat. The water was smooth and when we got outside the harbour a favourable breeze wafted us pleasantly along, not the slightest motion was perceptible in the ship; we took our meals on deck on a table constructed for the purpose, which made it very jolly indeed. On the fourth day, I think, when within easy distance of Aden, the wind still promising fair, the two sailing ships were cast off, and in the afternoon we arrived all right at Aden. On the following morning I went ashore where I relied upon getting a parcel of clothing which had been sent there from Bombay, but I found that it had been, by mistake, sent on to Zoolla. This was very vexing as I depended thereon for a change of clothing. In the afternoon having taken in coal we started for Bombay, the weather still fine with a light and favourable breeze. On the next day the wind blew fresher. Until now our ship had retained her character for steadiness, she however began to roll and from that time until we dropped anchor in Bombay harbour she never left off doing so. We had a light monsoon all the way from this with now and then a slight squall with occasional rain. The voyage on the whole—always barring the rolling—was a pleasant one. We had a good table with an abundant and liberal supply of wines, spirits, and beer. The captain did all he could to make us comfortable, and I don't think it is too much to say that he succeeded in so doing. The captain and ship's officers were most careful in working the ship and proved themselves in every sense of the word to be good seamen. The vessel belongs to the West India and Pacific Steamship Company, but as she had been out of dock for nine or ten months her bottom was very foul and under the most favourable circumstances she could not do more than 8½ knots per hour. We reached Bombay this morning, which I believe we were all but too glad to see once more, even the sepoys of the regiment betrayed a gleam of satisfaction as they crowded the deck.

(From another Correspondent.)

ZOOLLA, 2ND JUNE.

THE difficulties and dangers attending the evacuation of Abyssinia are now happily at an end. The tremendous flood of the 20th ultimo, which swept away Captain Arbuthnot's horse, barely allowing him time to escape by climbing up some rocks, and which drowned and more or less injured every living creature in the Sooroo pass, gave rise to much apprehension. That one flood completely destroyed the road below Sooroo for upwards of eight miles, a road along which you might easily have driven a four-in-hand three weeks ago, and which has only been barely made passable for two-wheeled carts by the unremitting exertions of four companies of Sappers working eight hours a day throughout a whole week. In fact the road was rendered nearly as impracticable as when we found it six months ago. Blocks of solid stone obstructed the narrow passage, of such a size and weight as to require fifty men with drag-ropes and levers to actually move them! The water in the pass rose from twelve to fifteen feet in one night,—and had a column of troops or even a convoy been in the pass on the evening of that memorable 20th of May not ten per cent. of them could have escaped, as the sides of the pass are not only precipitous, but with the exception of a gorge, here and there, simply perpendicular. Once more are we indebted to Sir Robert Napier for his foresight and prudence. As soon as the rains set in up-country he issued an order that no troops or convoys were to move down the passes between the hours of four and twelve P.M., the invariable hour at which rain sets in. The troops consequently marched from three to six or seven A.M. according to the length and difficulty of the march, and again from two to five or six P.M., frequently doing their thirty to thirty-two miles in the twenty-four hours—for instance, a common march was to start from Rarayguddy at 2 A.M., reaching Undel Wells (eighteen miles) at about eight o'clock. Starting from thence at 2 P.M., seven o'clock saw the gallant little column marching into Sooroo, thirteen miles further down; where, after getting their suppers and a few hours' rest, the inexorable trumpet, or bugle, called them at 2 A.M. to reload their cattle, and trudge off at 3 A.M. for another thirteen mile bout, down the pass, to Koomaylee. And right merrily they stepped out, these men, who had just marched to and from Magdala, over 700 miles. Who will now care to say that British troops can't march? The Commander-in-Chief and rear guard reached Koomaylee this morning. His Excellency came up to Zoolla by rail, and at once proceeded on board the *Octavia*, where he was engaged for three hours writing despatches, the mail being detained a few hours on this account. The 4th King's Own, Penn's and Twiss's batteries, and about thirty sick officers started for Suez this morning per s. s. *England*; they will be conveyed from Suez to Portsmouth by the troopship *Serapis*. The 3rd Dragoon Guards, 33rd, and other details will in like manner be conveyed per *Queen*, and troop-ship *Crocodile*. Great fears were entertained about Murray's battery, but the elephants came down the pass splendidly, in spite of its ruggedness,—they took three days over it. This battery proceeds to Ahmednuggur for a year or so, till the 14th Brigade is relieved. The rear guard coming down consisted of two steel guns, two companies of the 4th King's Own, and four companies of Sappers, who fired all that was not removeable. The captives, including Mr. Rassam, (who accompanied young Theodore), Mr. Prideaux, Mrs. Rosenthal, Miss Bell, Mrs. Flad and infant, Dr. Blanc, &c., &c., to the number of sixty, embarked for England per steamer *Octavia* on the 20th. Sir Robert Napier will, *en dit*, embark in the course of two or three days for Suez, *en route* to England. At any rate the steam yacht *Feroze* is being prepared for his reception.

LATEST NEWS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(By Direct Overland Telegraph.)

LONDON, 9TH JUNE, AFT.

AT the next Periodical Biddings for Government Bills on India £102,000 will be allotted.

The "Ceylon" from Southampton takes out £12,000 in specie for Bombay. The "Nyanza," from Marseilles, takes out £102,000 for the same place.

The "Thalkera" has arrived from Bombay.

LONDON, 10TH JUNE, NOON.

Papers have been laid before Parliament relative to the administration of Bengal, comprising elaborate minutes by Sir John Lawrence and the Members of Council in answer to questions by Sir Stafford Northcote.

Sir John Lawrence is opposed to the creation of a Governor and Court of Bengal, with a separate Council, as being derogatory to the Governor General.

Sir William Muir concurs with Sir John Lawrence, and a majority of the Council (sic.)

The Lieutenant Governor is favourable to a Government of Bengal similar to those of Bombay and Madras.

Sir William Mansfield recommends the creation of a Governor and Council without the privilege of direct correspondence with the Secretary of State, and thinks that this privilege should be withdrawn from Bombay and Madras.

The maintenance of Calcutta as the seat of Government is generally recommended.

Troops from Abyssinia are rapidly arriving at Suez. A large number have already embarked in the "Crocodile" and "Serapis."

LONDON, 10TH JUNE, AFT.

In the Liverpool Cotton Market to day prices generally were declining.

Fair Dhollera 9¼d.

LONDON, 11TH JUNE, NOON.

Government have announced their intention to demand supplies for the whole year.

The Cotton Statistics Bill has passed.

The Russian Government have proposed a Convention for abolishing the use of explosive projectiles in war. France has assented to this proposal.

Prince Michael of Servia has been shot by three individuals.

(By Indian Telegraph.)

CALCUTTA, 9TH JUNE.

Govt. Paper. { Fours 52 to 5. Fives 10. Fives and a half, 15.

Exchange, six months' sight, 1s. 11 1/16d.
Freights, Dead Weight, Rice, £1 15s. to £1 17s. 6d.
Jute £2 15s. to £3 17s. 6d.
Seeds, Linseed, £2 15s. to £3.
Shirtings Rs. 5-7 to Rs. 5-9.
Madapollams, Rs. 2-5 to Rs. 2-6.
No. 40 Mule Twist, 5 annas 9 pies.
Market for Piece Goods rather firm. Market for Twist better.

BOMBAY.

ON the 10th inst. Mr. T. C. Hope, Collector of Surat, reported to Government that no rain fell during the fortnight ending 31st May in the collectorate. The fortnight was hot, and, except small-pox, no epidemic prevailed.

A HINDOO lad, aged about two years, named Bapoo Budhoo, was bitten by a snake at Walkeshwur on Friday last, and he died in half an hour afterwards. A Coroner's inquest was held on Saturday on the body, and a verdict was returned accordingly.

THE weather report of the Rutnagherry collectorate informs us that there was a slight fall of rain during the fortnight ending 31st May in some of the villages of the collectorate. The state of public health was good.

THE roof of a house in Duncan Road fell in on Friday last. Two natives who were working near the house received slight injuries and were sent to the Jamsetjee Hospital.

As will be seen from a notice in our advertising columns, the business of the Fort Police Court will to-day be opened in the premises in Hornby Row known as the Fort residence of Mr. Sorabjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy.

ON Friday evening last the body of a child was washed ashore at the Breach Vellard, near the outlet of the drain. The body was in such a decomposed state that it could not be identified by any one. A report was made to the Coroner, who issued a warrant for the disposal of the body.

TELEGRAPHIC communication was yesterday reported right to Fao. The Turkish line was right to Constantinople; the Persian Line interrupted to Tabreez; and the Egyptian line right.

the Moonshees, who keep accounts as the above, fancy we are such green geese as to be taken in by such statements as these? We are in possession of an authentic copy of King Mahomed Ali's will, and it certainly does not contain directions for such reckless expenditure as all this. What "establishment" is it that swallows up a quarter of a lac of rupees yearly? Is it the manager's, who is so fond of ladies' society, or whose? What are the "sundry expenses" in connection with "charity" that cost only Rs. 17,000? What road is it that cost Rs. 6,000 in repairing? We thought all roads were under the Municipality, and that we are taxed for them. Need we go further into this dismal swamp of accounts, and show how necessary it is to relieve the Princes of any further care on behalf of the Hosseinabad Trust by appointing a British officer to look after it properly and honestly, and render a just account of his stewardship? Leaving it under its present mal-administration is nothing more than permitting a horde of rascals to fatten upon the revenues entrusted to them, and looked upon with sublime indifference by their Highnesses, who think it beneath their dignity to interfere with a moonshee's accounts. They will think very differently on this point however if the Government interfere and puts a stop to their day dreaming, by taking away the main prop of their extravagant ideas.

What we want to know now is, who is the person that audits and passes these accounts? We care not who he is, but we consider him guilty of a want of duty in not being more strict, and we call the attention of Government to this point, as it will prove the necessity of removing the Hosseinabab Trust into hands above the taint of suspicion. We have not done with this business yet; nor shall we rest until it is satisfactorily explained and settled. And now a word of warning before concluding this. We warn all the amlah of the various Courts of Lucknow that we shall attack *them* next!

THE RELIGION OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

THIS subject has been discussed in a good many of the home papers, *apropos* of Archdeacon Sinclair's charge, of which we published a brief report on Thursday:—

The *Daily News* maintains that the reason why Christianity does not exercise more influence over working men is that they so seldom get a sight of it. If one of their number goes to a church or chapel, he hears readings from a book which propounds a scheme of life as settled in its principles as any which a Rothschild or a Goethe could have proposed to himself; he hears of a kind of men who are happy in doing the will of God, who have cast the burden of life on Him, and confess themselves strangers and pilgrims here, and have a treasure laid up in heaven, counting all earthly possessions and delights dross for the excellency of the compensations they have found in relations of the highest blessedness, and which are to outlast sense and time. The reading done, the visitor may hear the whole congregation take up the same sentiments transmuted into the glowing language of a hymn. Perhaps he is touched by the sublimity of the ideas, and desires to know more of this new and nobler life. But to whom is he to turn? Where are the men who live it? Can they be found got at, spoken to, and made to speak intelligently of its springs, its progress, and its issue? In nineteen cases out of twenty the experiment would be a failure, and a man of common discernment would soon come to understand that those who had raised his hopes could render him little help. They had been saying that which it was held to be proper to say but all in a figure, or in a conventional language, which it was well understood was not be carried beyond the doors of the sacred building. Pilgrims as they were, their tents were as solid as other men's houses. If they "sought a country," it was one they would gladly not see for a long while to come. It is this discovery of the unreality of religious profession which weighs like lead on the hearts even of the most susceptible, and more than anything else, hinders the spread of religion.

The *Times* points to what took place during the time of the Reformation and in the Puritan period, and to the results of Wesley's and Whitfield's preaching, as an indication to the clergy of what the working men really want to bring them under the influence of religion. The sermons of these great preachers were not attended by any elaborate machinery of benevolence, nor by any attractive ceremonial. They consisted in plain and earnest speaking, upon purely theological questions, by honest and earnest men who were profoundly impressed with the importance of their subject. The clergy need none but the simplest means for asserting the dominion of religion over the working class, or, indeed over any class. A strong sense of religion in themselves, plain preaching, and hard working are, if history may be trusted, all that is necessary. As a matter of historical fact, men imbued with a strong religious conviction have generally succeeded in rousing a similar conviction in others. If, therefore, the working class, or any other class, hold aloof from the Church and from religion in these days, where should the clergy first look for the cause? In the working class and in the necessary circumstances of their life, or in themselves?

The *Star* declares that our clergy are too conservative. They are opposed to the progressive intellectual and to the progressive political spirit of the time. They are following the course of the very Church they claim to have improved upon. They will not yield to ideas, and they refuse to see that they must ultimately surrender to the great force of advancing opinion. The working man finds the clergy associated with the retention of Mr. Disraeli in power; with the keeping up of the Irish Established Church; with the closing of the University to Dissenters; and so on. Archdeacon Sinclair need not, therefore, seek for æsthetic or literary causes to account for the religious indifferentism of the working classes. They are not indifferent to religion, but they are distrustful of a band of religious teachers who appear to have no sympathy with their struggles, and are only zealous when they want to hold their ground against sensible reforms.

THE POLITICAL CRUSADE OF WOMEN.

(*Standard.*)

MONSTROSITIES, like misfortunes, never come single, and we are not in the smallest degree surprised that the peculiar period through which we are passing, and which is so prolific of schemes for the abolition of everything old, and the introduction of every conceivable thing new, should give birth to the proposal for conferring the political franchise on women. Mr. Gladstone, to use his last piece of rhetoric on another subject, wishes to "raze the establishment to the ground." Miss Ursula Bright, the daughter of Mr. Gladstone's illustrious colleague, wishes to raise her own sex *from* the ground, on which, we are informed, it has long been grovelling, in consequence of her not being allowed to plump for her own father, or against him, if she thinks proper. In days when we are gravely told that Universal Suffrage is the salvation and the Ballot the safeguard, of nations, we are quite prepared to hear that we might, with equal justice, beat our wives and immure out daughters in cupboards, as object to their going to the polling-booth, and recording their maiden votes, fancy-free. If a vote be not only the most precious of all possessions, but the most inalienable of all birth-rights, we are Bluebeards indeed for denying it to one-half of the population. It was reserved to this particular decade of the nineteenth century to make the discovery of so important a truth; and therefore it is just possible that when this decade shall have passed away it may be found not to be a truth at all. We are quite sure that a great many other notable eternal principles of the period will have to be shovelled out of sight before very long; and we must be ungallant enough to remark that we are quite sure that this individual eternal principle of the right of women to the franchise will be thrown in with the lot.

Of course Birmingham does not think so. If you want owls you go to Athens, and if you are in search of ribbons you go to Coventry, or, at least, you did so until by that precious oversight of Mr. Gladstone's in the matter of the French Treaty Coventry was sent to Coventry and ruined. Similarly when you want some pinchbeck novelty in politics you go to Birmingham. Birmingham, to use the Yankee vernacular, which is well understood in that locality, is "death on." Woman Suffrage, and has just been holding a big meeting about it in its Exchange Assembly-rooms. An archdeacon presided; but the amiability of archdeacons is proverbial, and though we wish to say nothing irreverent of the chair we scarcely think that a very strong point can be made of its occupant on the present occasion. The room was well filled with ladies, the telegraph informs us. That is quite as it should be. A letter of apology was read from Lord Amberley. At that, we confess, we are a little surprised. That juvenile politician somehow always seems to be the right man in the right place when he is surrounded by young women. Perhaps the ladies by whom the room was so well filled were not young. In that case Lord Amberley may fairly enough be excused for staying away, just as Mr. Chisholm Anstey, for the same reason, was most appropriately present. *Nosetur a socio.* Mr. Chisholm Anstey must have felt quite at home in a party of elderly spinsters. It was unocommonly lucky that there were so many ladies, as "gentlemen on the other side the house" were conspicuous by their absence. It is necessary to add, after the employment of that historical phrase, that Mr. Bright was not in the room. Neither was Miss Ursula Bright. Like Lord Amberley, she sent a letter of apology; considering, perhaps, that she had done quite enough for the cause just at present, by her remarkable oration delivered the other day in Lancashire. A Miss Becker, of Manchester, and a Miss Robertson, of Dublin, supplied her place, and, we are bound to add, answered the purpose quite as well. Happily we do not feel ourselves called upon to comment on the addresses of these two ladies. We would not willingly give them more notoriety than they have thus already obtained. Is it necessary to add that a few professors took part in the proceedings, and that a number of others wrote to say how much they would have liked to be there if they could? It is amusing to note how the tutorial mind rejoices in assemblies in which the audience consists chiefly of females, and at which men who are likely to know anything, and to make themselves disagreeable by starting inconvenient objections, are sure not to be present. For a wonder, Mr. Edmond Beales, M., A. and Mr. George Potter, M.C., were not there. Perhaps they were too busy in the metropolis making arrangements for a rowly gathering—euphemistically designated, "an indignation meeting against the Government"—in Trafalgar-square. It is agreeable to know that Miss Becker and Miss Robertson contrived to get on without them, even as they did without Lord Amberley. The affair was a most amicable one. There were no dissentient voices; and if we did not fear to hurt the susceptibilities of some of the ladies who graced the entertainment we should say that all went merry as a marriage bell. Resolutions of a considerably tall character were proposed, but were all unanimously carried amid feminine cheers and the waving of embroidered pocket-hankerchiefs.

Political sciolists are easily distinguished, and if the ladies who were present in the Birmingham Assembly-rooms are not quite sure as to the meaning of that epithet, they can ask some of their friends the professors to enlighten them, and then they will, perhaps, be able to follow our arguments. The political sciolist may always be known by the assumption which he practically makes, that politics are the be-all and end-all of social existence. The true politician is aware that though the study and pursuit to which he addicts himself are a most necessary and useful part of human affairs, there are other matters of national concern even still more fundamentally important. The market-place and the polling-booth are great and growing institutions; but the altar and the hearth, let us say, play an equally grave, if less conspicuous, part in the welfare of communities. Clergymen are not permitted to sit in the House of Commons; and save at such a crisis as the present, when they are made the direct objects of party attack, they are more blamed than commended if they rush demonstrating into a political fray. We mention this incidentally; for, of course, the case against women meddling in politics is infinitely stronger. We really cannot condescend to dispose of that part of the resolution proposed at Birmingham by Miss Robertson, which asserts "that the exclusion of women from the exercise of the franchise in the election of members of Parliament is unjust in principle." Let her ask Mr. Love about the value of such a proposition, or even Mr. John Stuart Mill, or Miss Martineau. They will assure her that it is pernicious nonsense; and she might possibly believe them when they did so, though if we were to say as much she might think us only rude. When her resolution went on to say that such exclusion was "inexpedient in practice," it re-entered the region of political argument, and there is little difficulty in showing how erroneous is the assertion. Does Miss Robertson—does anybody—gravely think that it is expedient in practice that married women or unmarried women still living under the paternal or maternal roof should plunge into all the public heats and private animosities of political conflicts? Does anybody really believe that it is more inexpedient that they should have the suffrage than that homes should be tranquil and that paternal and marital authority should be preserved amongst us? If such a person does exist, even though he be a professor, we really should be strongly inclined to disfranchise *him* on the ground of his being a lunatic. But, it is said "give the vote to women who fulfill the property and occupancy conditions of men." Did the point stand alone or were there anything in it intrinsically, we might concede it for the sake of being rid of a silly agitation, even though at the expense of the peculiar exceptions for whom it is asked, and who would thus become more than ever the object of conventional raillery, But who can tell how long "women who fulfill the property and occupancy conditions of men" will continue to fulfill them? In plain words, single ladies cease to be single ladies—and how then? If we took the franchise from them we should have Mr. Gladstone speaking of marriage as "a fine." And even if we hersisted in doing so, as in the case of his other well-known "fine," we fear that the disfranchised *feme coverte* would be rather a thorn in the side of the man who had inflicted upon her such a terrible injury. In fact, the whole thing is a farce. We are passing through a brief period in which all diseased elements have met in conjunction. In a year or so this particuliar foolishness, like so many others, will have vanished; and till then we must be patient.

THE PACIFIC FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY OF SYDNEY.—INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES, 26, VICTORIA.—The undersigned having been appointed AGENTS of the MARINE DEPARTMENT of the above Company are prepared to accept RISKS and issue POLICIES on Goods, Specie, &c. by Vessels to the United Kingdom, or Continent, or by Steamers to Indian Ports or to the Mauritius. EWART, LATHAM & Co., Agents.
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Age next birthday.	For the whole term of Life. With profits.	For the whole term of Life. Without profits.	Age next birthday.	For the terms of one year and seven respectively. One year.	For the terms of one year and seven respectively. Seven years.
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(Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th March 1848 and by Imperial Decree of 25th July 1854.)
Recognised by the International Convention of 30th April 1862 and by Act No. VIII. of 1864, of the Legislative Council of India and by amended Act of 1867.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £2,500,000.
PAID UP CAPITAL £2,400,000.
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RESERVE FUND £800,000.
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THE UNION BANK OF LONDON and MESSRS. C. J. HAMBRO AND SON.
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The Bank grants Drafts and Letters of Credit and purchases and collects Bills, on the above places, and on all the principal Cities and Towns on the continent of Europe.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS.
These will be made up to the 30th June and 31st of December in each year, and if the balance due shall not at any time during the half year have been below Rs. 1,000, Interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum will be allowed on the minimum monthly balances. No interest will be allowed above one lac.
Deposits for fixed periods are received at interest, particulars of which may be obtained at the Bank as also any information as to rules of business, &c.
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The Bank discounts, approved Local Bills, grants Loans on Government Paper, Bullion, Bank Stock, and approved Shares and other Securities.
All Remittances to be endorsed "Pay Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, or order." E. J. HARDCASTLE,
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9, Rampart Row, Bombay, 24th October 1867.

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4	do.	1/11 "
3	do.	1/10 7/8 "
2	do.	1/10 3/4 "
1	do.	1/10 5/8 "
On demand		1/10 1/2 "
On Scotland		1/10 1/2 "

No drafts at six months sight are granted for sums under £5 and sums under £20 are only drawn for on demand.
Interest.
On Deposits repayable on demand will be credited half yearly (on 30th June and 31st December) at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balances not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000 upon all accounts the balances of which have not during the six months fallen below Rs. 1,000. When such has been the case, no interest will be allowed.
On Fixed Deposits subject to 3 months Notice of withdrawal 3 per cent. per ann.
Do. 6 do. 4
Do. 12 do. 5
The Bank takes charge of Government Paper and other securities for constituents without charge.
All Drafts or Hoondies forwarded for realisation should be made payable to the Agra Bank, Limited or order.
Hours of business 10 to 3, Saturdays 10 to 1.
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EXCHANGE.
The Bank's Agency in Bombay grants Bills of Exchange on the CITY BANK, London, at the following rates, viz.—

6 months' sight (on City Bank)	at 1s. 11 1/8d.	per Rupee.
4 do.	at 1s. 10 15/16d.	"
3 do.	at 1s. 10 3/4.	"
2 do.	at 1s. 10 13/16.	"
1 do.	at 1s. 10 3/4.	"
On Demand (Head Office)	at 1s. 10 /8d.	"

INTEREST.
On Deposits repayable on demand will be credited half yearly (on 30th June and 31st December) at the rate of 2 per cent. on minimum monthly Balances, up to one lac of Rupees; in the case of all accounts the balances of which have not, during the six months fallen below Rs. 1,000; when such has been the case, no interest will be allowed. And on fixed deposits as follows:—
Repayable in one sum, at 3 months' notice, 3 per cent.
Do. 6 do. 4 "
Do. 12 do. 6 "
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The Bank's Agency realises Drafts or Hoondies on the Presidency for remittance to Europe in the Bank's Bills on London without charge.
All Drafts or Hoondies forwarded for realisation, to be made payable to the "Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, or order." When a remittance is to be made to a lady her Christian name must be given.
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The Bank receives Government and other Securities for safe custody free of charge, the Interest or Dividends thereon being credited to account, or remitted home on the Bank's Bills.
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FIXED DEPOSITS.
The Bank receives Money, on Fixed Deposit, and allows Interest thereon as follows:—
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" 6 " " 5 "
" 12 " " 6 "
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By order of the Directors,
JAMES WINDRAM, Manager.
National Bank of India, Bombay, 21st.

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MESSRS. LINDLEY and WARREN beg to notify, that their STUDIO in Apollo Street will be open daily during the rains for PORTRAITS of every description.

WARRANTED WATCHES.—All Gold and Silver Watches of every description and size manufactured by us, and fitted with the latest improvements, are warranted to purchasers for the term of 1, 2, or 3 years.
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MUSICAL BOXES.—A new and splendid assortment of these has just been received. Prices very moderate.
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Guarantee accompanying each Watch.
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WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, and MUSICAL BOXES carefully repaired. FAVRE, LEUBA & Co.

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The Bombay Gazette.

SUPPLEMENT.

BOMBAY:—MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1868.

THE

ABYSSINIAN EXPEDITION.

ENGLISH ACCOUNTS OF THE BATTLE IN THE AROGEE VALLEY, AND THE STORMING OF MAGDALA.

We extract from the English journals received on Friday the accounts furnished by their Special Correspondents with the Abyssinian Expedition of the operations before Magdala. They will supplement the versions which have appeared in our own and other Indian journals.

(*From the Times.*)

CAMP BEFORE MAGDALA, April 12.

As I don't know at what moment this letter may not be abruptly cut short by the departure of a mail, I think it best, even at the risk of anticipating its interest, to let the public know at once, in a few words, what is the position of affairs before Magdala up to the moment at which I write. Briefly, then, Theodore's troops were the day before yesterday beaten in a short but sharp engagement by the First Brigade almost under Magdala, and the next morning two of the prisoners, Mr. Flad and Lieutenant Prideaux, appeared in our camp with a flag of truce sent by Theodore to make terms. Nearly the whole day —a very anxious one—was spent in parleying, Theodore evidently expecting better terms than it was possible for Sir Robert Napier, without compromising the national honour, to concede; but before nightfall the English prisoners were unconditionally surrendered, many of the other Europeans were safe in our camp, and very little, if any, fears were felt about the fate of the remainder. This afternoon, as I write, they are gradually coming in with their own baggage and a long train of presents from Theodore to the Commander-in-Chief. The objects of the Abyssinian Expedition are, in short, accomplished, for the only question now left to be settled is the comparatively unimportant, though by no means unexciting one, whether Theodore will surrender Magdala without further fighting, or whether it will have to be stormed. That it can and will be taken there is no doubt, and to-morrow will probably see the British flag waving from the walls.

You may imagine into what a state of confusion and excitement our camp has been thrown by all these momentous events, chasing each other in such rapid succession, with so many anxious intervals and hours of almost unbearable suspense, and following immediately upon a long, uneventful campaign, during which the most exciting incidents have been the joyful discovery that some district produced eatable bread, or a tragic whisper that the Commissariat was running short of rum. It requires a lifelong faith in figures and almanacs to believe that barely a day and a half have elapsed since we were looking forward to the safe delivery of the captives as a doubtful event, and to the possibility of another year of absence from home and roughing it in Abyssinia, supposing Theodore escaped. Measured not by minutes, but by variety and intensity of sensations, as psychologists tell us time should be measured, there are in a life few months that would not pass more quickly than these short hours. Would that any description of mine could do justice to them! But, so far from this, I have to ask the indulgence of your readers for a report that must be written, not only against time, but in such a Babel of questions, answers, congratulations, kissings, handshakings, tears, laughter, rumours, contradictions, and counter contradictions as only the present occasion could create, and to which nothing short of utter blindness, deafness, and heartlessness could make even a special correspondent impervious. Within four yards of the little *tente d'abri* under which I have to write, lying at my length on the ground, Mrs. Flad, who was prevented by illness from coming into camp last night, is at this very moment exchanging greetings and contratulations with Mrs. Rosenthal, both happy and free at last, after so many weary months of wellnigh hopeless captivity; a group of small children are carrying on an animated conversation in a strange *patois*, compounded possibly of German and Abyssinian; and a strong-lunged baby is performing, in the universal baby language, a solo of its own. Exactly 24 hours ago these people were in momentary fear of a cruel death, at the mercy of a merciless tyrant, who two days before had, in cold blood, butchered over 300 innocent captives, slaying some with his own hand, and who, mad with rage and strong drink, alternately threatened and flattered them as fear or fury predominated. Just 24 hours ago their lives were literally not worth a moment's purchase. Now they are as safe as five thousand gallant hearts ready to shed every drop of blood in their defence can make them, with friendly faces and friendly voices on all sides of them, and big, rough men—the sailors of the Rocket Brigade, of course, as conspicuous as they were in the fight of Friday—almost crying over their children. Some facetious fellow-captive, with a curious quaver, however, in his voice which makes the facetiousness give forth an uncertain sound, has just sternly ordered the ladies to come with their husbands and children, and "have their heads taken off," in a photograph, and of course I must presently go, too, to have my first good look at so interesting a group, this being about the fiftieth interruption since I began this morning to try to make mental notes of what I had gone through in the last two days, but perhaps only the twentieth or thereabout since I began actually to write. A newspaper correspondent has, I know, not the slightest right to intrude himself or his grievances upon the public, and hitherto I have done my best not to sin against this great journalistic canon. But now, for the first and I trust the last time, I must, at all hazards, ask your readers to take into consideration the difficulties under which the production which they will calmly criticize in their easy chairs has been written, and show some mercy to the writer.

If I remember correctly my last letter left the Expeditionary force on the point of starting for the head of Bashilo Pass. This was reached early on Thursday last, the march being a very short one, and the rest of the day, a wretchedly rainy, inclement one, was spent in making preparations for an advance across the Bashilo at daybreak next morning. Sir Robert Napier usually keeps his own secrets, and what his full plan of operations was is, perhaps, not known to any one but himself. But enough of it is known to many to leave not the slightest doubt that he had no intention or expectation whatsoever of engaging the enemy, if he could help it, on the same day as that on which he crossed the Bashilo. His information as to the topography of Magdala and the approaches to it was very imperfect. No reconnoissance had been made from points sufficiently near to secure accurate results, and considering that he had not only to carry a fortress of great strength, believed to be numerously garrisoned, but also to prevent Theodore's escape, accuracy was all important. It was obviously Sir Robert's policy, and there is little, if any, doubt that it was also his intention, to take his troops near enough to Magdala to effect a thorough reconnaissance in force of the fortress and neighbouring country; but not near enough either to provoke the enemy into a premature engagement or to alarm them. With this view Colonel Phayre was ordered to take a reconnoitring party across the Bashilo, supported by a strong body of infantry, consisting of nearly the whole of the First Brigade, or some 1,500 men, under General Schneider, and, avoiding the road already made by Theodore up to the foot of Fahla, ascend the first, and, if he found that he could safely do so, the second of the mountain spurs, which lie to the right of this road, between the Bashilo and Magdala, Theodore's road to Fahla. I may mention, follows a ravine winding through a series of spurs and abrupt ascents, relieved by occasional terraces, which form a country broken up in a manner marvellously wild and irregular even for Abyssinia. Up to the head of the Bashilo Pass, where we were encamped, the gound is perfectly level table-land, but the plateau suddenly breaks in some places as precipitously and sharply as if it had been cut with a knife, and the whole country between it and Magdala, and, indeed, in almost every direction as far as the eye can reach, presents one huge, tangled, inextricable mass of hills, scarps, and ravines, lying, as it were, like the labyrinth which protected Fair Rosamond, between any invader and Magdala. However, Theodore's road threads the mazes of this labyrinth, runs up to the top of Fahla, and thence turning sharply to the left, or east, connects Fahla with Islamgee (the site of the King's camp), and Selassee and Magdala. Fahla, Selassee, and Magdala prove, on close inspection, to form one large three-cornered amba, being of nearly the same elevation, though differing materially in the steepness of their approaches, and mutually protecting and flanking each other. The distance between the extremest points of this amba, originally estimated at two miles and a half, can scarcely be more than a mile and a half. Sir Robert Napier did not think it expedient to use the enemy's road up to the very walls of the enemy's fortress, and so he ordered Colonel Phayre to use the road only down to the Bashilo, and then to find his own way to the right, making a rough path as he went over one or two spurs of the labyrinth; but on no account to take the supporting brigade so far as to incur any risk of its being obliged to fight or retreat. Why Colonel Phayre disobeyed this very simple and explicit order is at present known only to Colonel Phayre. His disobedience has led to such fortunate results that one does not feel much disposed, more especially at the present moment, to criticize it very closely. The fact remains, however, that he not only rushed boldly in where the Commander-in-Chief feared to tread, but actually sent off a despath to say that he had the command of the Arogee Pass (Theodore's road) before this not unimportant military manœuvre could be performed. In consequence of this despath Colonel Penn's mountain battery, now better known as the "Steel Pens," the Naval Rocket Brigade, a company of the 4th King's Own, a company of Punjab Pioneers, the baggage, animals and a baggage guard were all sent under Colonel Milward by Theodore's road, instead of over the mountain spurs to the right, and in consequence of their taking this course Sir Robert Napier found himself, to his astonishment, beating the enemy long before he had intended to be within gunshot of them.

Fortunately, Colonel Phayre was not only brilliant blunderer of the day. King Theodore, misinformed by spies, fancied that only a small pioneer force was advancing with baggage to find a camping ground for the rest of the army, and his mistake was immediately confirmed by the appearance at the top of the Arogee Pass of Colonel Milward's men, more especially as the mules of the battery and the Rocket Brigade looked to his inexperienced eye like ordinary baggage animals. To understand his mistake, and the results to which it led, your readers must bear in mind that the 1st Brigade (which had alone crossed the Bashilo, the 2nd Brigade remaining on the other side) had been divided into two unequal portions, and had taken different routes, the smaller portion going under Colonel Milward, up the Arogee Pass, within full view of the opposing hill of Fahla, on which Theodore stood, the larger (composed of the 4th, the Punjab Pioneers, the Beloochees, two companies of Madras Sappers, two companies of Bombay Sappers, and a few of the 10th R.E.) going up over broken precipitous ground, which completely hid them from Theodore's sight. All that he saw of them was a group of staff officers on a lofty eminence to his left, surrounding the Commander-in-Chief and Sir Charles Staveley, and down below the Punjab Pioneers, whom Sir Robert, considerably astonished to find that the Arogee Pass was not commanded, as he had been told, had immediately on his arrival sent to support Colonel Milward's force. It was indeed fortunate that he did so. Colonel Penn's Battery had, as it was, a very narrow escape from being taken; it would have been taken ten times over by a hostile European force in Theodore's position, and it was only the Punjab Pioneers that saved it even from Abyssinians. In a few minutes more one of the guns on Fahla poured forth a heavy booming sound, evidently in preconcerted signal, and almost simultaneously the steep road leading down from the heights, and the hilly, broken ground below them were alive with armed men, horse and foot, rushing impetuously to battle.

A finer or more spirit-stirring sight it is difficult to imagine, not more, however, from the bold, martial bearing of the men—some of them, too splendid horsemen—although they came on with the proud, triumphant confidence of soldiers used to conquest, than from the magnificent scenery in which the action was carried on, Magdala and the adjoining mountains forming, as it were, a grand natural amphitheatre, and a spacious terrace at the foot of Fahla making an admirable stage on which to give full effect to the brilliant game of war. The effect on our troops was magical. They had scarcely ever dared to believe that the Abyssinians would fight even behind walls, and to find them rushing on in this gallant style to do battle in the open was, indeed, an unlooked-for taste of the—

> "Stern joy which warriors feel,
> "In foemen worthy of their steel."

A ringing cheer broke from their ranks, and the two armies hastened to close.

How the fight would have gone if the Abyssinians had only had to encounter the force for which they were prepared it is not easy to say, although it may not, perhaps, be safe to admit a doubt on the subject. The Naval Rocket Brigade, although their firing was at first very wild, almost as dangerous to friend as to foe, gradually improved and did good work,—the strange, unknown character of their missiles contributing, perhaps, more than anything else to shake the confidence of the Abyssinians. At first they were pushed on the eminence on which the Commander-in-Chief stood, watching and generally superintending the fight, though leaving nearly all, if not all, its actual management to Sir Charles Staveley; but later on, as the enemy fell back and made a spirited stand behind two guns almost at the foot of Fahla, the Rocket Brigade were brought down on the actual stage of terrace on which the fight was being fought out, and by that time their fire had become very mischievous. The Mountain Battery, which did not open until the enemy were within 400 yards, did deadly execution in the skilful hands of Colonel Penn, assisted by Lieutenant Nolan; and the Punjab Pioneers and the baggage-guard, composed of men from the 4th and 10th Native Infantry, fought like heroes. The small force, too, was under the command of an officer who thoroughly understood how to make the most of his materials—Col. Milward.

Nevertheless, if this small force alone had been opposed to the Abyssinians, I cannot help thinking that their overwhelming numerical superiority, backed by undoubted pluck and even by dash, would have made the battle at least a doubtful one. But another and more formidable foe was in store for them. Up to the moment when the first gun from Fahla sounded the prelude to the battle, the 4th were crawling listlessly along, constantly falling out of the ranks to lie down, utterly knocked up by a terribly trying march, and imploring any one who passed for a drop of water, which on that day was as precious and rare a commodity as champagne. No hallowed rag of saints or winking virgin ever wrought such a miracle upon halt or lame as did the sound of that one Abyssinian gun upon the dead-beat men of the 4th. In five minutes they were to the front, dressing up, and hurrying past the Beloochees—not that the Beloochees were a whit the less eager, but they had not the deadly Snider to recommend them, and in a very few minutes more —though to anxious eyes above it may have appeared a longer time—they emerged from the hollow into which they had disappeared on leaving the hill, and began steadily to mount the stage which the enemy had at first so dauntlessly made their own, and to take it from them inch by inch. A Briton writing for Britons I need not dwell on the pluck of my own fellow-countrymen. Suffice it to say that nothing could have been finer than the cool, determined way in which the 4th, under Colonel Cameron, gallantly supported on the left by the Belooches, under Major Beville, mounted the hill without stopping for a moment to count the enemy or discover how near they were, and then forced them resistlessly back. Their firing was, indeed, like that of the Rocket Brigade, fearfully wild at first, but they were excited by the utterly unexpected nature of the whole affair, and had probably among them many young hands who had never been in action before. Afterwards it also greatly improved, and some wonderful shots were made. If any other fault could be found with them, it would be that they did not take sufficient advantage of the cover which the character of the ground readily afforded, but needlessly exposed themselves—a fault which their fellow-countrymen will probably not be disposed to treat with great severity.

To describe the fight after the Snider came into play would be only to describe a battue. Its sharp, short cracks following each other in breathless succession, were the death knell of the Abyssinian cause. The unfortunate foe had no longer even the shadow of a chance, but went down like grass before the sithe. How they kept their ground at all when Sniders, mountain guns and rockets had begun to get fairly at them is a marvel, and says a good deal for their national "pluck," notwithstanding that they never managed to hold even for a few minutes after the first impetuous onset any ground from which it was attempted to dislodge them. That they came on so pluckily is accounted for by their mistaking the character of the force, but this mistake, soon discovered, could only have contributed to their confusion, and yet to the very last, though they had left, it is thought, some 500 comrades dead on the field, among them their leader, Theodore's favourite general, and must have had at least three times that number wounded, they kept up some show of resistance, rallied to make a few faint charges, and mustered up spirits enough for a mock-victorious cheer when Sir Charles Staveley, as night was coming on and nothing more was to be gained by useless butchery sounded the retreat. Their artillery—Theodore's famous guns—gave them no assistance whatever; on the contrary, killed, it is said, a few of them. The big gun burst at the first explosion, the rest—there were about seven, I believe, altogether posted on Fahla—kept up a steady cannonade easily distinguishable by its dull, heavy sound, ascribed to the slow ignition of bad powder, from the quick rattle of the mountain guns, but did not even touch one of our men. Not one man on our side, strange to say, was killed, and only nineteen were wounded, among them one officer, Captain Roberts, of the 4th, who was hit by a bullet in the elbow joint. As regards the rest I have no exact list before me, nor any means just now of getting one; but to the best of my belief five of our wounded were from the 4th, about four from the Beloochees, and ten from the Punjaub Pioneers. These last came in for the severest part of the fighting, and were cheered yesterday by their comrades in the force for the pluck which they showed. They surprised the enemy in ravine, getting so close to them that bayonets and spears were used, and ghastly groups of from five to 20 Abyssinians huddled together in corners from which no escape was possible, showed next morning how fierce, though unequal, the contest had been.

I am afraid you will think that I ought to have said something about the strategy employed in the fight, but really, as far as I could judge from my own observation or from what I have gathered in conversation with military men, there was very little. The attack was too sudden and unexpected, and lasted too short a time —only about an hour—to give opportunity for it. All that Sir Charles Staveley or General Schneider could do was to bring up the troops as fast as possible, prevent their being taken in flank and rear, and keep them from going too far. As regards the disposition of the troops engaged, the Madras Sappers, under Major Prendergast, V.C., were on the extreme right, though too far to add one more to the many laurels they have gained. The Bombay Sappers came next, under Captains Macdonald and Leacock. The 4th, under Colonel Cameron, the Beloochees, under Major Beville, and a few of the 10th Royal Engineers, under Major Pritchard, were in the centre.

Colonel Milward's force, before enumerated, Punjab Pioneers being under the command of Major Chamberlayne, formed the left. The Naval Rocket Brigade, under Commander Fellowes, joined the centre, after leaving the hill to the right of Fahla.

I must here close this letter, though I hope to be in time with another despatch to-morrow. In case, however, it should be too late, let me mention that the present position of affairs is that if Theodore does not surrender himself in 24 hours Magdala is to be stormed.

April 14.

Magdala has been taken, and Theodore, killed by his own hand, lies, under the guard of a British sentry, in the last and strongest of the wondrous series of his strongholds. I have already told you that all the European prisoners were free, and yesterday, on the capture of Magdala, the Abyssinian prisoners also—the picked men and leading nobility of the country, kept by the tyrant as hostages each for the slavery of his own province—had their chains knocked off.

The Abyssinian Expedition has terminated with all the success for which the most sanguine ever hoped—far more than most of us ever dared to expect—and the force has now nothing to do but to make its way as quickly as possible out of this inhospitable, uninteresting country, men thinking little of the terrible journey before them, now that their faces are no longer turned from home. That Magdala would be taken at more or less cost of blood and treasure nobody indeed ever doubted, but up to the very last moment it was thought not improbable that Theodore would escape, to become again, perhaps at some future day, the oppressor of his country, and thus one of the objects of the Expedition would be left unaccomplished or indefinitely postponed, while as a prisoner in our hands he would have been an obvious source of embarrassment. His death is therefore universally regarded with unmixed satisfaction. It would be affectation to pity a tyrant who himself knew no pity, who was as unscrupulous and crafty as he was cruel, and who had indeed every reason to style himself the Scourge of God sent to punish the people. He has met with a death far more merciful than he dealt out to better men, and far more honourable than any trait in his character, except, perhaps, his dauntless bravery and invincible determination, deserved. Those few to whom these qualities recommended him to some sort of mercy had only to look for a moment into the fearful charnel-house, the loathsome human shambles which was yesterday exposed to our horrified gaze as we neared Magdala, and every lingering trace of compassion at once disappeared. We had been told by his prisoners, our fellow-countrymen, that the day before the arrival of the British army Theodore had summoned all the prisoners to his presence, and had in cold blood butchered over 300 of them, some with his own hand, almost within sight and hearing of the rest, who momentarily expected the same fate. But though details of this kind make one shudder, the mind of a civilized man, whose whole experience runs counter to a vivid faith in the actual existence of such atrocities, somehow cannot fully realize them, or take in their whole terrible import. Yesterday, however, nothing was left to the imagination, the tragedy was forced in all its naked horror upon our revolted senses. A strange smell, for which there was no apparent cause, made some of our party look over the edge of a steep cliff, almost within a few yards of the spot from which the guns were beginning to play upon Magdala, and there, on a ledge about 50 feet below them, lay two large heaps of mangled human bodies, closely piled upon each other in ghastly confusion, their limbs protruding from the mass in all sorts of repulsive attitudes and contortions, and presenting altogether a scene of horror such as no pen could adequately describe, could any pen be found to undertake the task. Here was the latest, though not by any means the worst, specimen of the pious handiwork of the self-elected Scourge of God. More commonly he mutilated and disabled his victims, leaving them to die of their wounds, or to the more tender mercy of the hyena. On Dalanta one of the force picked up two human hands, evidently not long cut of. The only exceptionally cruel feature in this last massacre was its unusual wantonness. The victims were, many of them, prisoners for very slight offences, and men of no importance, who might with perfect safety have been set free. Theodore feared the expense of keeping them during a siege, and considered it perhaps derogatory to his dignity to let them go, so he massacred them. It is impossible to feel pity for such a man. His courage and resolution barely suffice to check a regret that even a soldier's death befell him. Many a British soldier swore as he looked down into the foul pit that if Theodore that day fell into his hands the victims should not be unrevenged.

After the fatigues and strangely exciting scenes and incidents of the last few days, a sudden quiet, in its way scarcely less strange, has come over the camp, and there is a general lull like the calm which follows a storm. The object of the Expedition over, and its one enemy no more, the most vigilant and active of the force seem to think that they have a right to go to sleep. Many have done so literally, having lost their way among the precipices in the darkness when coming down from Magdala, and having had to pass a cold night on the mountain with no food or little rest. From my tent, around which Babel has hitherto reigned supreme, I can now hear scarce a sound, save the occasional croak of a raven, expressing doubtless his satisfaction at the scenes just enacted around Magdala, or the distant mutterings of thunder preceding the storm that deluges our camping ground nearly every afternoon, and which yesterday almost blinded the storming party, proving far more troublesome than the thin, scanty fire of the enemy as they advanced to the attack. I gladly take advantage of the unhoped-for quiet, only praying that it may last, to try to send you a clear account of what happened yesterday, though perhaps to make it intelligible I ought to preface it by a very brief diary of the preceding days, as my last hurried, disconnected letter may have left in the minds of your readers only a vague notion of when and how each event occurred. It was, then, just four days ago, late in the afternoon of Good Friday, that Theodore made his unexpected attack on Colonel Milward's force. Disheartened by a crushing defeat when he had been led to expect an easy victory, and finding his troops utterly demoralized and deserting in large numbers, he next day tried to obtain favourable terms, but was reluctantly compelled to consent to the unconditional surrender of the prisoner. Many came into our camp the same night, and all were safe in it before the next day. Theodore was then given 24 hours to surrender himself and Magdala, or subject himself to an attack. He made no reply, but early next morning—yesterday—the camp was full of rumors, as usual contradictory, of his flight by night from Magdala, and of a wholesale massacre of the Abyssinian hostages. Some of his leading men came early into camp to give themselves up as prisoners, and to surrender Selassee, the lofty peak which on the north commands Magdala, and reported that nearly all Theodore's army had deserted him. Before 8 o'clock it was known, on trustworthy authority, that Theodore had indeed fled from Magdala, but had returned almost immediately, probably on finding his retreat cut off by the fierce Wollo Gallas his bitter foes, who since his defeat on Friday had been swarming eagerly round him, like bloodhounds on the scent of wounded prey. Driven to desperation he was now standing savagely at bay, prepared to defend Magdala itself to the last, and sell his life as dearly as he could. Before 10, all the troops here (except a small baggage guard)—two brigades, mustering about 5,000 men, were marshalled in order of attack under Sir Charles Staveley, on the terrace which formed the principal scene of Friday's encounter, immediately under Fahla, prepared to ascend the road up to it, made by Theodore for his guns, and carried through Islamgee (his camp) to Selassee, which projects, about a mile further on, slightly north-east, and to Magdala, about the same distance, which projects slightly south-west. These three hills form, in fact, a sort of roughly-shaped T, except that Selassee and Magdala slant outwards on either side away from Fahla, instead of being at right angles to it, and as they all flank and protect each other, and are connected by a mountain, isolated, and rising many hundred feet above the plain, and with its sides broken up into scarps and terraces, most of them perfectly precipitous, they form together a natural stronghold which, perhaps, has not its parallel in the known world. There are, I think I may say without exaggeration, fifty places between Fahla and Magdala at which a small, well-equipped force could make a good stand against vastly superior numbers. Of the strength of Magdala itself it is, perhaps, impossible to give an adequate idea. It is protected by lofty, almost overhanging cliffs so precipitous that a cat could not climb them, except at two points, north and south, at each of which a steep narrow path leads up to a strong gateway. It was by the northern gateway, as being on the side commanded by Selassee, that our troops had to effect an entrance.

However, their task yesterday morning was mere child's play compared with what it might have been. Fahla was deserted, and Islamgee and Selassee were in the hands of friends. It was not thought necessary even to advance up the road by Fahla in skirmishing order, but the troops move slowly in dense columns, the cavalry being left on the low ground around the Amba in order to prevent the flight of any armed party, and some of Captain Murray's Armstrongs being placed in a position to open fire on Selassee, in the possible, though very improbable, event of its being re-occupied by Theodore, or of the treachery of the party who had deserted from him and offered to place the hill in British hands. Lieutenant Speedy had also been sent on, as an additional precaution, with a small escort of the 3rd Light Cavalry under Colonel Loch, to watch the northern entrance to Magdala, and keep the Commander-in-Chief informed of all that went on. It was not, of course, intended that this small party should do any fighting unless they were attacked or found Theodore or any of his men trying to leave Magdala, but their early appearance on the scene led most unexpectedly to a sort of burlesque rehearsal of the siege that occurred later on. They had a long time to wait idle, drawn up on a spot commanding a view of the southern gate, while the rest of the troops were slowly making their way up Theodore's very steep road; and, encouraged, perhaps, by their inactivity, a few of the enemy's cavalry, Theodore himself, it is said, among them, left Magdala and began galloping wildly about the plain beneath, firing occasional shots, though apparently rather in bravado than in the hope of hitting anybody, and challenging the 3rd Light Cavalry to come on and fight them. They recognized Lieutenant Speedy as Theodore's "Basha Falika," and especially challenged him; but, much to his disgust Colonel Loch objected to his going out, being in hopes that the whole party, if unattacked, might be tempted near enough for a cavalry charge cutting them off from Magdala. However their manœuvres beginning to look suspiciously like an attempt to escape from Magdala, a few of the 3rd Light Cavalry was thrown forward in skirmishing order, but with instructions not to fire. Just then a small body of infantry came round from the other side of the Selassee, and seeing this manœuvre and also themselves coming in for a few shots, probably thought that a fight was going on, and returned the fire with a vigorous volley from their Sniders. One Snider makes many. In another instant every man anywhere near with a rifle in his hand was banging and blazing away as if all his prospects in this world and in the next depended upon the number of charges he could get rid of in a minute. This naturally created an impression that an action was going on somewhere, and a general scamper was at once made to a spot which commanded a better view of the plain before Magdala, and on which, to the great delight of the scamperers, some of Theodore's guns and mortars were unexpectedly found. An artillery officer, Lieutenant Nolan, happening to be one of the party, promptly resolved to use their own guns against the enemy if possible, and this being considered apparently in the light of a humorous practical joke by a few civilians and "loafers" escaped from their staff or regimental duties to the front, a sort of comic siege of Magdala was carried on by a force of all arms, dresses, and undresses for more than an hour. One of these excursions led, oddly enough, to the unearthing of M. Bardel, the Frenchman who has been suspected of poisoning Theodore's mind against the captives. On the first of the enemy's guns being fired by Lieutenant Nolan a woman rushed out frantically from a small tent near the line of fire, evidently under the impression that her tent was about to undergo a heavy cannonade, and with vehement gesticulations offered to capitulate. The tent was entered, and there in bed, to the intense astonishment of every one, was found a European, who proved to be M. Bardel. If he

had been well, he would, I fear, have run some risk of a few complimentary kicks, since he is naturally unpopular among the fellow-countrymen of the captives. But he was down with fever, evidently very ill, so the only revenge taken was to carry him off to the rear, as his tent between two fires was not in a safe position. He was apparently the last inhabitant left in the deserted collection of small grass huts, very like beehives, with which the Abyssinians form a temporary camp, and which cover the Magdala mountain. It is odd that Theodore should not, in accordance with his usual policy, have thought the Frenchman worth the trouble either of killing or keeping, instead of thus leaving him to his fate. He had a very narrow escape of tasting the mercy of the gentle Gallas. Two hours after his tent was moved, these freebooters were swarming about the huts and carrying off everything they could lay their hands on, under cover of the British fire, until a few rockets, ingeniously misdirected, made the place too hot for them.

After this incident the siege of Magdala was resumed, and, to the intense gratification of the besieging force, one round shot from Theodore's own gun was sent bobbing along the ground sufficiently near him and his small party to induce them to retreat into Magdala, and desist from the attempt they had hitherto been making to carry a gun up there. After this the firing ceased altogether on the part of the beseiged, and became very languid on the part of the beseigers. As this bombardment, however well-meant and amusing to all concerned, was not altogether business-like, nor on the whole calculated to exhibit the siege of the great stronghold of Magdala in a suitable aspect, your readers may perhaps wonder how it happened that it was allowed to go on so long without interruption. I believe that Sir Robert Napier and Sir Charles Staveley, who were some distance in the rear, seeing the troops and artillery brought up and so disposed about Selassee and the neighbourhood as best to command Magdala, were told that the first rifle volley was occasioned by Theodore's having ordered a battue of the Abyssinian prisoners, and that the guns subsequently fired were stray shots sent by his men at our advance guard. Of course when they came up, near enough to know what was really going on, the amateur siege ceased, and, shortly afterwards, at about 2 o'clock, the real siege began.

I feel that as a patriot, perhaps, the less I say of this siege the better. It was far less amusing than the former, and scarcely more effective. For two hours a cannonade of shot, shell, and rockets, heavy enough, one would have thought, to disturb the complacency of Cronstadt, was kept up on a collection of unprotected huts, made of stakes and thatched straw, without setting one of them on fire, or producing the very slightest impression on the point at which the fire was principally directed,—the gateway by which the storming party—the 33rd—were to force an entrance into Magdala. When they advanced they found the gate and the protecting stockade near it every whit as strong as they would have been had not a shot been fired, and within Magdala itself scarcely a trace could be found of all the heavy firing that had gone on without it. The utmost effect that even its most vehement admirers claim for the artillery was that it frightened most of Theodore's men out of the fortress, and thus saved the lives of the storming party.

This failure is not to be ascribed to the fault either of the guns or of the men who worked them. The truth is that Theodore's army was known to be so utterly disheartened and demoralized, and to be as a body so little attached to him from any motive but fear, that despite the strength of Magdala, it was not expected that a formidable resistance would be made, or any serious difficulty found in taking it. The siege was really almost a matter of form, and the chief object of the bombardment to frighten what few troops the King had left. Everybody turned out as if to a grand review, and it is a fact, although at home people will find some difficulty in believing it that the engineers and sappers who led the storming party up the steep path to the northern gate found at the last moment that they had no powder-bags or other means of forcing the gateway, which was of immense strength, and blocked up by a mass of huge stones. For fully half-an-hour the storming party remained, most of them, huddled helplessly in the path, and if Major Cooper, who commanded them, had not found a way into the place over the stockade near the gate, there might have been a heavy loss of life. As it was, fifty determined men might have done great mischief, but luckily Theodore had not apparently more than half a dozen—his principal chiefs—who really meant to die at their post in his cause. The greater part of his small army probably fled during the bombardment, and the rest as soon as the British began to clamber up the stockade. Although they had every advantage of position, and might have fired with their eyes shut upon the troops massed in the narrow path below, not one of our men was killed, and only about ten wounded in the path, a few being touched by strayshots elsewhere. Even of these ten two or three—among them Major Pritchard, who led the Engineers—were, it is believed, struck by British bullets, the men keeping up an objectless fire in spite of the interference of their own officers and the General in command, Sir Charles Staveley, himself. At first the perfect *feu d'enfer* raised by the Sniders, as the head of the storming column moved up the path, did, no doubt, admirable service. Volley followed volley with a blinding, deafening vehemence and rapidity, and showers of bullets, rattled, without an instant's intermission, round every crack and crevice of the gate and adjoining stockade leaving scarcely an inch of wall of rock unexplored from which an opposing shot could safely be fired, such as might well have shaken a far cooler and more experienced foe than the Abyssinian. But, as usual, the Sniders could not be stopped in time. The artillery, too, did all it could to cover up to the latest moment the advance of the column, but it was not within effective range. It had not been thought worth while to lose the time required for bringing the big guns and mortars over the very difficult ground, near Islamgee and Selassee, within working distance. Why, however, the little mountain guns were not brought nearer the Magdala gate it is difficult to see. If Colonel Penn's battery, which did such good service in the fight of Friday, had been placed within 500 or 600 yards—which could have been done with far less risk of loss than had to be incurred subsequently by the storming party—it would in every probability have effected a breach in the gate or palisades As it was, it remained about 1,500 yards off, making very pretty practice, which would have been charming at a review, but which did about as much real damage, except in the way of scaring the enemy, as would have been done by firing from Woolwich Common.

Magdala is so remarkable a stronghold—so emphatically one in ten thousand—that some of our engineers, with something of Sir Lucius O'Trigger's feeling about a "pretty quarrel," are disgusted that it was not stoutly defended and more scientifically attacked. But, as a civilian, I may perhaps be permitted to congratulate all lovers of peace upon the unexpectedly fortunate turn which events have taken. A luckier blunder than that made in carrying a small force within too tempting reach of Theodore was never made. If Theodore's army had remained from the first in Magdala, and faced the British with anything like the pluck and ignorant confidence with which they made their spirited sally from Fahla there might, indeed, have been an uncommonly pretty siege, but there would also have been an uncommonly ugly "butcher's bill." Friday's ruinous defeat taught them their hopeless inferiority, and their dread of Theodore gave way to a greater dread of the foreign foe.

The consequence was that a very small number stood by him to the last. It is said that 80 dead bodies have been found within Magdala. If so, I fear that many of the slain were not fighting men, for I myself counted the bodies near the gateway, at which nearly all the fighting occurred, and I could not find more than ten, and at least half of these were Theodore's chiefs, distinguished from the common soldiers by their shirts of coloured silk. These few men stood by him to the last with desperate devotion, but the rest must have made a very poor stand, or our troops would have suffered far more. As it is, it is little short of miraculous that even six men, bent on selling their lives dearly, and with good arms, in their hands (nearly a dozen English breech-loaders, have been found in Magdala), should have failed to kill one man out of a dense column advancing up such an ascent as that to Magdala—it would have been less surprising if they had between them killed a hundred men than that they should have to kill one. The escape of our troops on Friday was strange enough, considering that they did not attempt to take much advantage of their skill as marskmen and skirmishers to keep under cover, but went at once into the open in exposed masses. Still this escape may be accounted for by the fact that the immense superiority of their firearms no doubt enabled the British to keep the Abyssinians at a comparative safe distance. But yesterday the 33rd and Engineers were for some time massed together within a few feet of the men firing upon them.

Theodore's body was found, not near those of his chiefs in the gateway, but alone on the hill above. After sending you a telegram to say that he had killed himself, I heard that the Commander-in-Chief had telegraphed home that he was killed in battle, and this now seems to be the belief of those who are perhaps likely to know best. As I do not wish it to be supposed that, in order to send off a sensational telegram, accepted the first statement made to me, you will, I trust, permit me to explain that I was relying upon the opinion of a surgeon whose high professional reputation fully entitled me to take him as an authority. I happened to be near Dr. Lumsdaine when he examined the body, then still warm, and was told by him that he believed Theodore to have committed suicide. This theory is so exactly in accordance with what is known of the man's character and his conduct up to the last moment that I am inclined still to think it the right one. His face seemed to me rather a disappointing one after all that has been said about it, but then it was impossible to judge properly after death, especially as the eye was said to be, from its fire and expression, the most remarkable feature. There was a look of bloated, sensual indulgence about the cheeks by no means heroic or kingly, but the forehead was intellectual, and the mouth singularly determined and cruel. A very strang esmile still lingered about the lips, as if even in the death-throe his last thought had been one of triumph at having baulked his conquerors by dying a King.

(From the Standard.)

BEFORE MAGDALA, APRIL 11.

ALTHOUGH it was evident when I last wrote to you that the last act of our long drama was approaching, I certainly did not imagine that my next letter would convey the tidings that all was over—that the captives were free, their prison captured, their oppressor punished, and general triumph amidst a blaze of blue fire. But so it is; for although Magdala has not yet fallen, it will undoubtedly do so before the post closes, and a more gratifying termination to our expedition than has eventuated could not have been desired by the most sanguine. I had better continue my letter in a narrative form from the date when I last wrote—for if I describe the final events first it would deprive the rest of the matter of all interest. I wrote last on the evening of the 7th from Delanta. The following day brought on largely increased supplies, and the market was completely thronged with the country people. In the three days we were there we purchased over a hundred thousand pounds of grain, besides quantities of bread, &c., and nowhere, even at Antalo, did supplies flow in with the rapidity of this place, which we expected to find a desert.

On the afternoon of the 8th the 45th marched into camp having done the distance from Scindu. The authorities had thoughtfully sent down mules to the Djedda river to carry up their coats and blankets, and the men consequently arrived comparatively fresh. The sailors of the naval brigade turned out as they came into camp and saluted them with three hearty cheers. The 45th are a remarkably fine body of men.

Thus reinforced Sir Robert Napier determined to move forward and to encamp before Magdala, even if he decided upon delaying the assault until the other wing of the Beloochees and the 3rd Dragoon Guards joined us. The order was accordingly issued for a march the next day to the edge of the Bachelo ravine, to which the second brigade, which were now two miles ahead of us, were also to proceed. We started at ten o'clock, and were soon upon our camping ground which was only five miles distant. Here the second brigade joined us, and together we formed a larger camp than any we have had since our landing at Zulla. From the front of the camp we had an excellent view of Magdala, which stood up, with Salanizi and Fahla, a thousand feet above the surrounding hills. We could now see that the ridge connecting Salanizi with Fahla was longer than it had appeared from our previous point of view, the distance from one end to the other of the saddle being apparently over half a mile.

The first brigade was ordered to advance at day-break. The Commander-in-Chief and his head-quarters were to move with the second brigade at ten o'clock, so as to allow the baggage of the first brigade to get first to the bottom of the ravine. The first brigade were to march to within two or three miles of Magdala. The second were to encamp upon the river, and to march on early the next morning. There was then not the slightest intention on the part of Sir Robert Napier that any attack should take place, and indeed, as I have before said, it was considered very probable that we should await the arrival of the troops hurrying up from behind before any assault was made upon Magdala. However, I determined to go on early, as it was quite possible that something would take place, and I had afterwards good reason to congratulate myself upon having so done, as several others who had not started until ten o'clock lost the exciting scene at the end of the day.

Sir Charles Staveley was in command of the advance, and Colonel Phayre, as quartermaster general of the army, went on in front with six companies of the Bombay and Madras Sappers to prepare the road should it be necessary.

At half-past five the next morning (Good Friday) we were in motion, and at once entered upon the steep descent to the Bachelo. It is a ravine of about the same depth as the Djidda, namely 3,400 feet, and the road as made by Theodore, is a wonderfully good one. It is shorter but at the same time hardly so precipitous as parts of that down to the Djidda, and can hardly have presented quite so many difficulties, that is these were fewer places where the basalt had to be cut through with blasting tools. Still it was a fatiguing descent to the Bachelo, and the sun, when it rose came down with tremendous power. The men had had but a scanty supply of water the night before, and hardly any before starting they therefore looked forward eagerly for the welcome stream at the bottom. It turned out, however, a disappointment, for although there was an abundance of water, the river being eighty yards wide and nearly waist deep, the water was of a consistency and colour which would have rendered it perfectly undrinkable except to men suffering from great thirst. I do not think I ever saw such muddy water in a stream. It was the colour of coffee with milk in it, and perfectly opaque with mud. It looked like nothing so much as the water in a dirty puddle in a London street, just as it has been churned up by the wheels of a passing omnibus. However, there was no help for it, and dirty as it was, every one had a drink, and the soldiers filled their canteens, for it was probable that no more water would be obtainable during the day.

From the Bachelo a broad ravine with a flat bottom ran nearly straight to Salanizi, and along this Theodore's road was made. It was believed, however, that guns had been laid to command this road, and it was not improbable that Theodore might make a sudden attack. It was, therefore, determined that the mountain guns, rocket trains, and baggage should proceed by this road, preceded by the six hundred sappers and miners, and that the infantry should at once climb the hills to its right and should march along them, so as to clear them of any possible enemy. To cross the river the men had to wade, the first time that they have had to do so since they landed. Some wisely took off their trousers, others thinking vainly that the water would not reach above their knees, merely rolled their trousers up, and of course, got thoroughly wet. Most of them took off shoes and stockings, but many stopped in the middle and put their boots on again, for the stones were so extremely sharp that wet shoes were preferable to cut feet. At last the troops were across, and after a short halt moved forward, the sappers having gone on an hour previously with Colonel Phayre. After proceeding up the valley we prepared to climb the hill. On crossing it the 4th formed the advance, the men loading before they started, as it was impossible that we could tell when we might be attacked. Sir Charles Staveley, with General Schneider, the able and popular officers commanding the first brigade, with their staffs followed, and after them came the 4th—the little party of Engineers under Major Pritchard, the Beloochees, the Punjaubees, and two companies of 10th Native Infantry; also a squadron of the 3rd Native Cavalry, the only cavalry we had with us. We have had some stiff climbing since we entered Abyssinia, but this altogether surpassed any of our previous experience. In fact, when we got near the summit of the first range we came to a spot which was almost impassable even for infantry, and quite so for the horses of the staff. Two or three officers endeavoured to drag their horses up, but the animals, although pretty well accustomed by this time to stiff places, were quite unable to get up, and one or two tumbled backwards and were nearly killed. The infantry, therefore, clambered up to the top, but we had to wait where we were for half an hour, until the Punjaub Pioneers cleared a sort of track up which we were able to scramble. When on the first level we had a halt for half an hour, for the troops were all very much exhausted by their climb, under one of the hottest suns I ever felt. They were now, too, beginning to suffer much from thirst, and the muddy water in the skins was drunk most eagerly. It tasted muddy, but was, not otherwise bad; but we had to shut our eyes to drink it. While we were waiting here a messenger arrived from Colonel Phayre, saying that he held the head of the valley with the Sappers and Miners, and that the road was quite practicable. Sir Charles Staveley at once sent off an aide-de-camp to Sir Robert Napier, saying that the baggage and guns which were waiting at the river for the receipt of this intelligence, might move forward in safety. We then marched four miles farther up a succession of rise to the place where it was intended that we should encamp, and which was four or five miles from Magdala. Here it was hoped from the native accounts that we should find water, but there was only one small pool of very dirty water, with which, however, three or four skins were filled. The disappointment of the men, who were now suffering severely, was very great, but there was no help for it. Sir Charles at once sent on the Punjaub Pioneers half a mile to our left front, and the rest of the tired troops lay down in the shade of the bushes a quarter of a mile to our rear. Every one was devoured with a burning thirst, which the scanty draught of mud seemed to excite rather than allay. Any money would have been cheerfully given for a drink of pure water. A storm was seen coming up, but it unfortunately did not pass over us; we got, however, the tail of the shower, and by spreading out my waterproof sheet I caught nearly half a pint, which I shall long remember as one of the most refreshing draughts I ever tasted. In the meantime Sir Robert Napier had arrived with his staff, and it was evident, by the anxious care with which he reconnoitred the hill before us, and the head of the valley, that he considered our position to be a critical one. We could see with our glasses half-a-dozen guns in line on the flat top of Fahla, and as many more upon Salanizi, and presently we saw two artillerymen go from gun to gun and load them in succession. Still all was quiet, but the suspense was a most anxious one, for we knew that from the fortress they could see our long line of animals winding up the valley, and that the head of the train must be fast approaching. Presently, the Naval Rocket Brigade, which was in front of the baggage, emerged upon the flat below us and joined the Punjaubees, and almost at the same moment a dozen voices proclaimed, "A large force is coming down the road on the brow of the fortress." Every glass was turned there, and a large body of horse and foot men were seen hurrying down pell-mell, and without any order or regularity. At first there was a divided opinion as to whether this was a peaceful embassy or an attack; but all doubt was put an end to in another minute by the booming of a gun from Fahla, and by a thirty-two pound shot striking the ground at a few yards from the body of Punjaubees. It was war then, and a general burst of cheering broke from the officers who were clustered round the generals. Theodore actually meant to fight, and not only that, but to fight in the open. Still, our position was a most serious one. The second brigade was miles behind, the baggage undefended except by the Punjaubees, and it was easy enough for the enemy to make a circuit down the ravine and to avoid them. Sir Robert Napier instantly dispatched an aide-de-camp to Major Chamberlain, commanding the Pioneers to order him to take up a position on elevated ground to his left, where he could the better protect the baggage, and to order the Naval Brigade to hurry up the valley to the commanding spur upon which we were standing. Aide-de-camp after aide-de-camp was sent back to bring up the infantry. It was a most exciting five minutes. The enemy were coming down with very great rapidity; they had already come down the road from the fortress, and were scattered over the plain, the principal body moving towards the valley in which was our baggage, the rest advancing in scattered groups, while the guns upon Fahla kept up a steady fire upon the Punjabees. A prettier sight is seldom presented in warfare than that of the advance of the enemy. Some were in groups, some in twos and threes. Here and there galloped chiefs in their scarlet cloth robes. Many of the foot men, too, were in scarlet or silk. They kept at a run, and the whole advanced across the plain with incredible and alarming rapidity, for it was for some time doubtful whether they would not reach the brow of the little valley, along which the Rocket Train was still coming along in a long single file, before the infantry could arrive to charge them, and in that case there can be no doubt that the sailors would have suffered severely. The road, or rather path from the valley, up to the spur upon which we stood, was steep and very difficult, and considerable delay occurred in getting the animals up. After a few minutes, which seemed ages, the infantry came up at the double, all their fatigue and thirst vanished, as if by magic, at the thought of a fight. The 4th, who were only about 300 strong—the remainder of their body of a hundered and fifty being with the baggage—were ordered to go on in skirmishing order; they were followed by the little party of Engineers, then came the Beloochees, and after them the two companies of the 10th N. I. and the Sappers and Miners. Just as the head of the infantry went down into the valley the leading mules reached the top of the crest by our side, and in less than a minute the first rocket whizzed out on the plain. It was our first answer to the fire which the guns of the fortress had kept up, and was greeted with a general cheer. As rocket after rocket rushed out in rapid succession, the natives paused for a minute, astonished at these novel missiles, and then, their chiefs urging them forward, they again advanced. They were now not more than five hundred yards from ourselves, a hundred from the edge of the little ravine up the side of which the skirmishers of the 4th were rapidlly climbing. With my glass I could distinguish every feature, and as we looked at them coming forward with a run, with their bright-coloured floating robes, their animated gestures, their shields and spears, one could not help feeling pity for them, ruffians and cut-throats as most of them undoubtedly were to think what a terrible reception they were about to meet with. In another minute the line of skirmishers had breasted the slope, and opened a tremendous fire with their Sniders upon the enemy. The latter, taken completely by surprise, paused, discharged their firearms, and then retreated, slowly and doggedly, but increasing in speed as they felt how hopeless was the struggle against antagonists who could pour in ten shots to their one. Indeed, at this point they were outnumbered even by the 4th alone, for they were in no regular order, but in groups and knots scattered over the whole plain. The 4th advanced rapidly, driving their antagonists before them, and followed by the native regiments. So fast was the advance that numbers of the enemy could not regain the road to the fortress, but were driven away to the right, off the plateau, on to the side of a ravine, from which the rockets again drove them, still further to the right, and away from Magdala. The 4th and other regiments formed up at a few hundred yards from the foot of the ascent to the fortress, and for half an hour maintained an animated fire against the riflemen who lined the path, and kept up a brisk return from small rifle pits and the shelter of stones and rocks. All this time the guns upon Fahla and some of those upon Salanizi kept up a constant fire upon an advancing line, but the aim was very bad, and most of the shot went over our heads. Certainly more alarming were our own rockets, some of which came in very unpleasant proximity to us. Presently, to our great relief, they joined us, and soon drove the enemy's riflemen up the hill, after which they threw a few salvos of rockets with admirable aim up at the guns a thousand feet above us, doing, as it afterwards turned out, considerable damage, and nearly killing Theodore himself, who was superintending the working of the gun by his German prisoners. In the meantime a much more serious contest was taking place upon our left. The main body of the enemy had taken this direction to attack the baggage, and advanced directly towards the Punjaub Pioneers, who were defending the head of the road. Fortunately, as they were nearly approaching, Colonel Penn's mountain train of steel guns, which were following the naval train, arrived at the top of the road, and instantly unloaded and took their places by the side of the Punjaubees. When the enemy were within three hundred yards the steel guns opened with shells, and speedily stopped the advance of the head of the column. The greater part of the natives then went down a ravine further to the left, down which they proceeded to the attack of the baggage, in the main valley of which this ravine was a branch. The baggage guard, composed of a detachment of the 4th, scattered along the long line, had already been warned by the guns of the fortress that an attack was inpending, and Captain Aberdie, of the Transport Trains, galloping down, brought them word of the advancing body of the enemy. The various officers upon duty instantly collected their men. Captain Roberts was in command, and was well seconded by Lieutenants Irving, Sweene, and Durrant of the 4th, and by the officers of the Transport Train. As the enemy poured down the revine they were received by a withering fire from the deadly Snider. A portion of the Punjabees came down the ravine and took them in flank, and some of the guns of Penn's battery, getting upon a projecting space, scattered death everywhere amongst them. From the extreme rapidity of the fire of the Snider, the firing had this time in different parts of the field was as heavy and continuous as that of a general action between two large armies. The Punjaubees behaved with great gallantry and charged with the bayonet, doing great execution. The natives, who had fought with great pluck, now attempted to escape up the opposite side of the ravine, but great numbers were shot down as they did so, their white dressess offering a plain mark to our riflemen; at last, however, the remnant gained the opposite bank, and fled across the country to our left, from their retreat to Magdala being cut off. The action, the first to the last gun, lasted an hour and a half. It was, as far as our part of the fray was concerned, a mere skirmish. We had not a single man killed, and only about thirty wounded, most of them slightly. Captain Roberts, however, was hit in the elbow-joint with a ball, and will, it is feared, lose his arm. On the other hand, to the enemy this is a decisive and crushing defeat. Upwards of three thousand of Theodore's bravest soldiers sallied out; scarcely as many hundreds returned. Three hundred and eighty bodies were counted the next morning, and many were believed to have been carried off in the night. Very many fell upon the slope of the hill, and away in the ravine to our right and left, where our burying parties could not find them. Certainly five hundred were killed, probably twice as many were wounded, and of these numbers have only crawled away to die, It was a terrible slaughter, and could hardly be called a fight, between disciplined bodies of men splendidly armed, and scattered parties of savages scarcely armed at all. Much as the troops wish for an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, I have heard a general hope expressed that we shall not have to storm the place, for there is but little credit to be gained over these savages, and the butchery would be very great. The natives are, however, undoubtedly brave, and behaved really very gallantly. Not a single shield, gun or spear, has been picked up except by the side of the dead. The living, even the wounded, retreated; they did not fly. There was no *sauve qui peut*, no throwing away of arms, as there would have been under similar desperate circumstances by European troops. As the troops returned to the rear we passed many sad spectacles. In one hollow a dozen bodies lay in various positions. Some had died instantaneously, shot through the head; others had fallen mortally wounded, and several of these had drawn their robes over their faces, and died like Stoics. Some were only severely wounded, and these had endeavoured to crawl into bushes, and there lay uttering low moans. Their gaudy silk bodices, the white robes with scarlet ends which had flaunted so gaily but two hours since, now lay dabbled with blood, and damp with the heavy rains which had been pitilessly coming down for the last hour. I have omitted to mention that a tremendous thunder-storm had come on while the engagement was at its height, and the deep roar of the thunder had for a time completely drowned the heavy rattle of musketry, the crack of the steel guns, and the boom of the heavy guns upon Fahla. Once when the storm was at its height, the sun had shown brightly out through a rift of the thunder-clouds, and a magnificent rainbow shone over the field upon which the combatants were still fiercely contending. Only twice was the voice of man heard loudly during the fight. The first was a great cheer from the natives upon the hill, and which we could only conjecture as occasioned by the return unharmed of some favourite chief. The other was the cheer which the whole British force gave as the enemy finally retired up into their strongholds. Thus terminated, soon after six o'clock, one of the most decided and bloody skirmishes which, perhaps, ever occurred. It will be, moreover, memorable as being the first encounter in which British troops ever used breech loading rifles. Tremendous as was the fire, and great as was the slaughter, I am of opinion, and in this many of the military men agree with me, that the number of the enemy killed would have been at least as great had the troops been armed with the Enfield. The fire was a great deal too rapid. Men loaded and fixed as if they were making a trial of rapidity of fire, and I saw several instances in which only two or three natives fell among a group, the whole of which would have been mown down had the men taken any aim whatever. At the end of an hour there was scarcely a cartridge left of the ninty rounds which each man carried into action, and the greater portion of them were fired away in the first quarter of an hour. The baggage guard used up all their stock, and were supplied with fresh ammunition from the reserve which they guarded. Against close bodies of men the breach-loader will do wonders. In the gorges where the natives were clustered thickly together it literally mowed them down. Upon the open not one shot in a hundred told. In a great battle the ammunition, at this rate of expenditure, would be finished in an hour. From what I saw of the fighting, I am convinced that troops should, if possible load at the muzzle when acting as skirmishers, and at the breach only when in close conflict against large bodies of cavalry or infantry. It is all very well to order men to fire slowly, a soldier's natural eagerness when he sees his enemy opposite to him will impel him to load and fire as quickly as possible. He cannot help it, nor can he carry more than sixty rounds of ammunition, which will not last him twenty minutes. It certainly appears to me that a soldier's rifle should combine breach and muzzle loading, and that he should only use the former method when specially ordered by his commanding officer.

The troops retired amidst a heavy rain, and were marched back to the camp they had left to fetch their greatcoats and blankets which had been left behind when they advanced to the fight. Then they returned to the ground held by the Punjaubees, and took their station for the night, as they here guarded the top of the road, at which the baggags was now arriving, it having been kept back during the night. It was perfectly dark before we reached our camping ground, and as this was in many places covered with thorns and bushes, which in the darkness were quite invisible, very considerable confusion prevailed. Now that the excitement was over, every one was again tormented with thirst, but it was felt less than it would otherwise have been owing to the thorough soaking which every man had got. Of course there was no getting at the baggage, which remained on a flat behind us, and every one wrapped himsef in his wet blankets and laid down to snatch a little sleep if he could, and to forget hunger and thirst for a while. As we had marched before day-break, and went into action long before any of the baggage animals came up, no one had taken food for the whole of the long and fatiguing day. Very strong bodies of troops were thrown out as pickets, and the whole were got up and under arms at two in the morning, lest Theodore should renew his attack before day break. There was now news that there was water to be had in a ravine to our left, and the British were sent down with the water skins, and numbers of the soldiers also went down with their canteens. The water was worse than any I ever drank before and ever think to drink again. Numbers of animals, mules or cattle, had been slaugatered there; it appeared, in fact, to have been a camp of Theodore's army. The stench was abominable, and the water was nearly as much tainted as the atmosphere. The liquid and mud we had drunk the day before was a healthy and agreeable fluid. However, there was, no help for it, and few, if any, refused the noxious fluid. This climate must certainly be an extraordinarily healthy one, for in spite of hardship and privation, of wet, exposure, bad water, and want of stimulants, the health of the troops has been exceptionably good. Only once, at Gazoo, have we had threatenings of dysentery, and this passsed away as soon as we moved forward. I question if we had a single man in hospital upon the day of the fight, which is certainly most providential, considering the extreme paucity of medical comforts, and the very few dhoolies avaible for the sick and wounded. Before daybreak we again started as the place upon which we were encamped was within range of the enemy's guns, and marched back to this, the camping ground of the preceding afternoon. The 2nd Brigade arrived soon after daylight, and took up their camp a little in the rear of the position in which we had passed the night. Our baggage came on with us, and we had now the satisfaction of being in our tents again, and of getting, what we greatly needed, food. After breakfast I rode over to the camp of the Second Brigade, and then, leaving my horse, went down into the ravine, where fatigue parties were engaged in the work of burial. The scene way very shocking. In one or two narrow gorges in which they had been pent up, fifty or sixty dead bodies lay almost piled together. Very ghastly were their wounds. There was a man, nearly blown to pieces with a shell; near him and another, the upper part of whose head had been taken off by a rocket; then, again one who lay as if in a peaceful sleep shot through the heart; next to him one less fortunate, who, by the nature of his wound had lingered in agony for hours through this long night before death brought a welcome relief. Two of them only still lived, and they were carried into camp, but their wounds were of so desperate a nature that it was probable they could not live many hours. Strangely enough, there were no wounds of a trifling nature. All who had been almost at the point of death, had either managed to crawl away or had been removed by their friends. With a very few exceptions it was a charnel place of dead, whose gaudy silk and coloured robes were in ghastly contrast with their stiffened and contorted attitudes. Among the few survivors was the commander-in-chief of Theodore's army, who was carried to the camp. He like the others we were able to succour, expressed his gratitude for our kindness, and said the affair had been a complete surprise to them. They saw what was apparently a train of baggage without protection coming up the valley, and apparently had not noticed our small body of infantry upon the brow. They sallied out

therefore, anticipating little or no resistance. It certainly speaks well for the courage of the nation that, taken by surprise, as they must have been, by our infantry, with the rockets and shells, they should yet have fought as bravely and well as they did. There can be no doubt that had not the fight been brought on so suddenly as it was, and had the Second Brigade been at hand, we should have gone straight up upon the heels of the fugitives, and captured the place then and there. As it was although it might have been done the troops were too tired and exhausted to have put them at such an arduous task, for Theodore would, no doubt have fought with desperation, and we should have lost many men before we could have surmounted the hill. I say this because it is the opinion of many that we might have taken the place at once had we chosen to go on.

Before I left camp for my ride to the ravine an event of great interest occurred, but which I deferred mentioning in its place, as I wished to complete my description of the battle and field without a break. At half-past seven, just as I was at breakfast, I heard a great cheering and hurrahing, and found that Lieutenant Prideaux and Mr. Flad had come in with proposals from Theodore. This was a great relief to us all, as there were great fears that Theodore, in a fit of rage at his defeat the day before, might have put all the captives to death. This, however, was not the case. The prisoners had indeed passed an unenviable afternoon while the battle was going on, but Pridraux and Blanc consoled each other, as they heard the heavy firing of our rifles, that at least if they were to die that night they were to some extent avenged beforehand. These two gentlemen have throughout written in a spirit of pluck and resignation which do them every honour. Theodore had come in after the engagement in a rather philosophical mood, and said, "My people have been out to fight yours. I thought that I was a great man, and knew how to fight. I find I know nothing. My best soldiers have been killed, the rest are scattered, I will give in. Go you into camp and make terms for me." And so the two captives came into camp. Both looked well and hearty, and acknowledged that as far as eating and drinking go they have been far better off than we are ourselves. Indeed, with the exception of captivity and light chains, the captives do not appear to have been ill-treated for many months. They have their separate houses, their servants, and anything they could buy with the supplies of money sent to them. A horrible business took place in Magdala on the very day before our arrival. Theodore had all the captives out, and before their eyes had put to death three hundred and forty prisoners, many of whom he had kept in chains for years. Among them were men, women, and little children. They were brought out, chained, and thrown down on the ground, their heads fastened down to their feet. Among this defenceless and pitiable group the brutal tyrant went with his sword and slashed right and left until he had killed a score or so. Then getting tired, he called out six of his musketeers, continued to fire among the wretched crowd until all were dispatched. Their bodies were then thrown over a precipice. The captives describe the usual mode of execution, by cutting off the hands and feet, as being a refinement of cruelty. A slight gash is made round the member, and it is then wrenched off by main force, the arteries being so much twisted that very little loss of blood takes place. The wretched beings are then left to die and some of them linger for many days and then expire of thirst more than of their wounds, it being death to administer either food or water to them. We can feel no pity for this inhuman monster and should he resist there is every hope that he will be killed in the fight. Sir Robert Napier declined to grant any consideration whatever, demanding an instant surrender of the whole of the prisoners and of the fortress, promising only that Theodore and his family should be honourably treated. With this answer the two captives returned, but came back again at three o'clock with a message from Theodore begging that better terms might be offered him. Sir Robert Napier was most reluctantly obliged to refuse, and the captives again returned amidst the sorrowful anticipations of the camp. At half-past six to the great joy of all Mr. Flad came in with the news that the captives would all be in in an hour, and at seven the whole of them came in safe and sound, with the exception of Mrs. Flad and her children. She being unable to walk, had been left behind by the carelessness or haste of Rassam, to whom the business had been entrusted by Theodore. This person, Rassam, is very unpopular among the rest of the prisoners; the only person who seems to have liked him being Theodore himself, to whom his demeanour, so different from that of Prideaux and Blanc, had to a certain extent ingratiated him. I trust that to-morrow will see Mrs. Flad and her children safe in the camp, and then one of the objects of our expedition will have been completely and satisfactorily attained. Theodore has until mid-day to surrender Magdala, and if he does not do so we shall storm it to-morrow night or next day. Some more scaling ladders are in process of preparation, the materials being the long bamboo dhoolie poles for the sides, and the handles of pickaxes for the rungs. The ladders are about five feet wide and twenty long. I close this letter now, but anticipate that my next, describing the fall of Magdala will be in time for the same post by which this reaches England.

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April 12.

Contrary to expectation, the day has passed off without event. One reason for this was that Mrs. Flad and her children were still in Theodore's hands, as also were some of the European workmen. At two o'clock, however, they came in, and we have now the whole of the captives safe in our hands. We have quite a native camp within our own, indeed, so large is the number of their attendants and followers. The principal English prisoners have done very well with the money constantly supplied to them, but many of the German workmen have a miserably-pinched and starved appearance. There are several half-castes among the party that have come in, their father being English or other Europeans who have resided in Abyssinia, their mothers natives. The natives who have come in have an idea that wearing a piece of red cloth round the head is a sign of friendliness to us, and they therefore are generally so adorned. The released captives start to-morrow for England. Theodore this morning sent down a thousand cattle and five hundred sheep as a propitiatory offer; but Sir Robert Napier refused to receive them, and has sent in a renewed demand for the surrender of the fortress. It has been all day thought that the assult would take place to-night or rather at daybreak to-morrow. No orders have, however, yet been issued, and it is believed that the attack will take place to-morrow, in which case it is doubtful whether any description of the affair will reach you, as I had hoped by this mail.

Ten o'Clock P. M.

I have just received certain information that the attack is postponed. Sir Robert Napier, one of the kindest hearted of men, has sent off a letter this evening to Theodore, urging him to surrender, with a promise that his life shall be spared and the lives of all his men. He has pointed out to him that his men cannot possibly resist our superior weapons, that cannon greatly superior to those used in the fight of Good Friday have now arrived, and also the rest of our forces; that, therefore, our success is certain. He has therefore implored him to surrender and to save any further effusion of blood, if not for his own sake, at any rate for that of the women and children, of whom alone it is said that there are 7,000 in the fortress. I most earnestly trust that Theodore will consent to the appeal. Of course the effusion of blood is to him, who only three days ago murdered 350 men, a matter of small moment. Still his own courage is failing. He yesterday, when he heard of the terms demanded, pretended to attempt to commit suicide, and fired a revolver close to his head, but the ball only grazed his neke. This, however, shows that his courage is failing; a brave man will never commit suicide, still less will he, if driven by desperation to the act, inflict only a slight wound upon himself. It is evident that he is now afraid; and I trust that to save his own miserable life he will surrender, and so save the butchery which must ensue if we storm Magdala.

To-day being Easter Sunday we had, as usual, a church parade, and our chaplain, read the thanks giving for our success, in which I am sure all will heartily join.

A mail is on the point of leaving, so I must close this abruptly.

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April 14.

I sent off a few lines this morning in hopes of catching the last mail, announcing the welcome intelligence that Magdala had been taken, and that Theodore had fallen in its defence, I now proceed to give you the full details. When I closed my letter of the 12th, I mentioned that Sir Robert Napier had written to Theodore urging him most strongly to surrender, as he had no possibility of a successful resistance, and the destruction of life if we were to open fire upon it would be terrible.

On the next morning several of the principal chiefs came into camp, and said that they could not fight against our people, and would, therefore, surrender. They held, with their people, Fahla and Salanizi, and would hand over these fortresses to us, on condition that themselves and their families were allowed to depart with their property, unharmed. With them came Samuel, a man who has been frequently mentioned in connection with the prisoners, both in their own letters and in Dr. Beke's work. This man exercised a strongly prejudicial influence at the early period of their captivity, but has since shown them kindness. Having been one of Theodore's principal advisers, one could hardly have expected to see him deserting his master in his adversity. Samuel is a strongly-built man, with remarkably intelligent features, and rather grizzly iron-grey hair, which he wears in its natural state, and not plaited and grease bedaubed in the Abyssinian fashion. Sir Robert Napier accepted the surrender, and gave permission for the departure of their families and effects. Captain Speedy was ordered to return with them, with fifty of the 3rd Native Cavalry, under Colonel Locke. Orders had been previously given for the whole of the troops to parade on the flat in front of the fortress. In half an hour after the departure of the cavalry the troops were formed up, and made an imposing show, the first we have had since we landed. Hitherto the brigades have been separated, and so large a portion of them have been scattered along the line of baggage that we have never had no opportunity of seeing our real force. We could now see that it was a very formidable body. The 33rd were drawn up 750 strong, the 4th 450, the 45th 400. We had now the whole of the 2nd Beloochees, their left wing having arrived during the night, and the whole of the Punjaubees. We had two companies of the 10th Native Infantry, and six companies of Sappers and Miners altogether a very complete body of infantry. We had Murray's Armstrong battery, two seven-inch mortars, Penn's Mountain Train of steel guns, Twiss's Mountain Train, and the Naval Rocket Brigade: a very respectable corps of artillery. In cavalry alone we were wanting, having only the fifty troopers of the 3rd Native Cavalry, who had come as the commander-in-chief's escort, and who had now just reached the top of the crest of Fahla. The rest of the cavalry, namely, the 3d Dragoons, 4th and 3d Native Cavalry and Scind Horse, having been sent round into the valley to cut of Theodore's retreat. General Staveley was of course in command of this division. We moved forward headed by the 33rd, to whom, as having—of the European regiments borne the brunt of the advance work throughout, was now assigned the honour of first entering and of placing the British flag upon Magdala. They were followed by the 45th, Murray's and Twiss's battery, and the rest of the second brigade, which had not had an opportunity of taking part in the action on Good Friday. Then came the 4th and the 1st brigades, with the exception of the troops who were left behind to take care of the camp. Major Baigrie, as quartermaster general of the 1st division, rode in advance. As the long line wound up the steep ascent in Fahla, the effect was very pretty and elicited several remarks that this was our Easter Monday review. On the way up we met a large number of men, women, and children upon their way down. Once upon the shoulder which connects Fahla and Salanizi, we found ourselves in the midst of a surprising scene. A perfect exodus was in progress. Many thousands of men, women, and children were crowded everywhere, mixed up with oxen, sheep, and donkeys. The women, children, and donkeys were laden with the scanty possessions of the inhabitants. Skins of grain and flour, gourds and jars for water and ghee, blankets for coverings and tents—these were their sole belonging. It was a Babel of noises. The women screamed their long quavering cry of admiration and welcome, men shouted to each other from rock to rock; mothers who had lost their children screamed for them, and the children wailed back in return; sheep and goats bleated, and donkeys and mules brayed. It was an astonishing scene. All appeared extremely glad to see us, and to be relieved from the state of fear and starvation in which they existed; men, women, and children bent until their foreheads touched the ground in token of submission. The men who bore no arms carried burdens, as did the women, but the warriors only carried their arms. The number of gaudy dresses among the latter was surprising, and their effect was very gay and picturesque. Shirts of red, blue, or purple broacade with yellow flowers, and loose trousers of the same material, but of a different hue, were the prevailing fashion with the chiefs. These were distinguished from the soldiers by having silver or tin ornaments upon their shields. At present all retained their arms, but the 10th Native Infantry had been left at the foot of the hill with orders to disarm them as they came down the road. All along our march over Salanizi this extraordinary scene continued, and we saw more people than we have seen during the whole time we have been in Abyssinia. The general opinion is that there could not have been less than thirty thousand people congregated here, and I believe that this computation is rather under than over the mark. There was a universal feeling of thankfulness that we had not been obliged to bombard the place, as the slaughter in this defenceless crowd of people would have been terrible. Wherever was a level piece of ground there their habitations were clustered. They were mere temporary abodes; a framework of sticks, covered with coarse grass, placed regularly and thickly, so as to turn the rain. They were about the size and shape of ordinary haycocks, and show that the people must sleep, as they sit, curled almost into a ball.

From the shoulder we climbed up the very winding road on the face of the natural scarps to Salanizi. The natural strength of these positions is astounding. Fahla is tremendously strong, but it is as nothing to Salanizi, which commands it. Colonel Milward, who commands the artillery, remarked to me that in the hands of European troops it would be not only impregnable but perfectly unattackable. Gibraltar, from the land side, is considered impregnable, but Gibraltar is absolutely nothing to this group of fortresses. After capturing Fahla and Salanizi—if such a thing would be possible— an attacking force would still have Magdala to deal with, and Magdala rises from the end of the flat shoulder which connects it with Salanizi in an unbroken wall except at the one point where a precipitous road leads up to the gate. It must be a good 1,500 yards from the top of Salanizi to Magdala, and even the heaviest artillery could do nothing against the wall of rock. We may well congratulate ourselves that Theodore sent his army to attack our baggage, for had they remained and defended the place, provided as they were with 40 cannon, our loss would have been tremendous, and even with our superior weapons, it is a question whether we could have succeeded. The road in many cases winding along the face of a precipice which a few men from above merely rolling down stones would have cleared. When we had reached the brow of Salanizi—a still higher scarp of which rose two hundred feet above us—Major Baigrie halted for orders, and I rode on with two or three others to the little body of the 3rd Native Cavalry, who were half a mile further on, at the edge of the flat between Salanizi and Magdala. I should say that early in the morning we had received news that Theodore had left in the night with a small body of his a dherents, and intended to gain the camp of the Queen of the Gallas, and to throw himself upon her hospitality, the Gallas being wandering tribes who, like the Arabs, would protect their bitterest enemy if he reached their tents and claimed hospitality. When we were nearly at the top of the hill we had received a message from the cavalry saying that there was a rumour that Theodore had returned, and had committed suicide. This was the more probable, as he had often asserted that he would never be taken prisoner, and had only the day before fired a pistol at his head when the news came that Sir Robert Napier demanded the unconditional surrender of Magdala. The ball had only inflicted a slight scratch on his neck, but it was probable that he might have repeated the experiment with more success. When we reached the cavalry, however, we found a state of some excitement prevailing. Some eight or ten horsemen, among whom Captain Speedy had recognised Theodore himself having just galloped up brandishing spears and discharging their muskets in defiance. Colonel Locke could not, of course, charge without orders, and, indeed, it would have been most imprudent to do so, as the whole of the shoulder, a quarter of a mile wide and six or seven hundred yards to the fort of Magdala, were covered with the little huts, behind and in which any number of men might be concealed. Colonel Locke then threw out a few of his men as skirmishers. The horsemen continued to gallop about, sometimes approaching to within three hundred yards, sometimes dashing across the plateau as if they mediated a descent into the valley far below by one of the winding paths which led down. To prevent this Colonel Locke called to five or six soldiers of the 33rd, and two or three artillerymen, who had somehow got separated from their corps and had come down towards us, to take up a position to command the path, and to open fire if the horsemen attempted to go down it. At the same time we saw upon the top of Salanizi behind us, a company of the 33rd, who had gone up there to plant the colours. Colonel Locke had the advice blown, and signalled to them to come down to command the opposite side of the shoulder, in case the horsemen might attempt to descend into the valley by any path which might exist upon that side. The horsemen again moved in and discharged their rifles at us, and the cavalry keeping their places, our little party of 33rd answered with their sniders. As they did so they moved forward, and another hundred yards we came upon no less than twenty cannon, which Theodore had no doubt intended to have moved across into Magdala, but had had no time to accomplish. These were of course taken possession of, and, as an officer remarked, with a laugh, to me, it is probably the first time that twenty guns were ever captured in the face of an enemy by six men of the line, two artillerymen, three or four officers, and the press. In the tumbrils of the guns were their ammunition, and Lieutenant Nolan, of the Artillery, assisted by two artillerymen, Captain Speedy, and the civilian, at once proceeded to load them, and at once opened fire with ball upon the footmen a hundred or so of whom we could now see clustered at the foot of the road up to Magdala. The 33rd men keeping up a fire upon the horsemen and a few footmen running over the plains, and who occasionally answered, and the company of 33rd, who had now come down nearly to the foot of the slope behind us, also opening fire. It was one of the funniest scenes I ever saw. There was Magdala at 500 yards' distance with its garrison keeping up a scattered fire at us, none of the bullets, however, reaching so far; there were a few shots from behind the little haycock huts; there was Theodore himself galloping about with a half dozen of his chiefs—picturesque figures in their bright-coloured robes; and there was our little party waging a war upon them, with not another soldier in sight, or, indeed, within half a mile of us. This lasted for ten minutes or so, and then an officer rode up to order the infantry to retire into the slope, but to keep the guns under their fire. The cavalry had previously been ordered to retire. In another quarter of an hour Penn's battery came down to us and opened fire, and the steel shells soon drove the enemy up the road into the fortress. For a quarter of an hour they continued their fire, and when they had once got the range every shell burst close to the gateway through which the road passed. Then there came an order to cease firing, and Murray's guns, which had taken up their position upon the top of Salanizi, Twiss's battery more to the right, and the Naval Rocket Brigade took up the fire. For nearly two hours, with occasional intervals, these guns and Twiss's battery kept up their fire. While this was going on we discovered in a small tent, a hundred yards or so in our front, the Frenchman, Bardel, who is sick with a fever, and was at once carried to the rear. We had, too, plenty of time to examine the guns. Some were of English, some of Indian manufacture. All were of brass, and varied in size from a fourteen-pounder downwards. There were two or three small mortars among them. This was evidently the arsenal, for here were tools and instruments of all descriptions—files, hammers, anvils, &c. There were bags of charcoal and a forge, and here were many hundreds of balls, varying in size from grape shot to immense stone balls for the giant mortar, which shattered to pieces the other day at the first attempt to fire it. At this time we made a discovery which quite destroyed the feeling of pity which the gallantry of Theodore in exposing himself to our fire had excited. The Beloochees had joined us and were posted near the edge of a precipice to our right. Their attention being attracted by an overpowering stench they looked over the edge of the rock, and there, 50 feet below, was one of the most horrifying sights which was ever beheld. There in a great pile lay the bodies of the 350 prisoners whom Theodore had murdered last Thursday, and whom he had then thrown over the edge of the precipice. There they lay—men, women, and little children—in a putrifying mass. It was a most ghastly sight, and recalled to our minds the horrible cruelty of the tyrant, and quite destroyed the effect which his bravery had produced. At last, at half-past three, the troops came down and took their places, and at a quarter to four the whole of the guns and rockets opened a tremendous fire to cover the advance, and the 33rd, preceded by a small band of engineers and sappers under Major Pritchard, and followed by the 45th, advanced to the assault, the 4th and the rest of the 1st brigade retaining their places as a reserve. When within three hundred yards of the rock the 33rd formed line, and opened fire at the gateway and high hedge which bound the summit of the precipice. The most tremendous fire I ever heard. Even the thunder which was, as during the fight of Good Friday, roaring over head, was lost in the roar of the 700 Snider rifles, and which was re-echoed by the roacks in their front. Under cover of this tremendous fire the engineers and the leading company advanced up the path. When they were half-way up the troops ceased firing, and the storming party scrambled up at a run. All this time answering flashes had come back from a high wall which extended for some feet at the side of the gateway, and from behind the houses and rocks near it. When the engineers, headed by Major Pritchard, reached the gateway, several shots were fired through loopholes in the wall, and two or three men staggered back wounded, Major Pritchard himself receiving two very slight flesh wounds in the arm. The men immediately put their rifles through the holes, and kept up a constant fire so as to clear away their enemies from behind it. The 45th opened fire to prevent the enemy's skirmishers doing damage, and a few pioneers of the 45th were sent up with axes to force open the gate. In the meantime, however, the men of the 33rd, upon the road leading up to the gate, discovered a spot half-way up by which they were able to scramble up to the left, and getting through the hedge they quickly cleared away the defenders of the gate. A large portion of the regiment entered at this spot, the gate not being fairly opened for a quarter of an hour after the storming party arrived at it, for when it was broken down it was found that the gate house was filled with very large stones, and therefore, had powder been at hand, and the gate been blown in, a considerable time must have elapsed before the party could have entered. Behind the gateway were a cluster of huts, many of whose inhabitants still remained in them in spite of the heavy fire which had for two hours been kept up. Behind them was a natural scarp of twenty-five or thirty feet high, with a flight of steps wide enough only for a single man to ascend at a time. At the top of this was another gate, which had been blown open by the rifles of the 33rd. I entered with the rear of the regiment, but all was by that time over. By the first gateway were six or seven bodies, and two or three men by the second. Beyond this was the level plateau, thickly scattered with the native huts of their ordinary construction, and the haycock fabrics which had covered the other hills and plateau. At a hundred yards from the gate lay the body of Theodore himself, pierced with three balls, one of which, it is said, he fired with his own hand. He was of middle height and very thin, and the expression of his face in death was mild rather than the reverse. He had thrown off the rich robe in which he had ridden over the plain, and was in an ordinary chief's red and white cloth.

The fighting was now over. A hundred men or so had escaped down a path upon the other side of the fortress, and the rest of the defenders had fled into their houses and emerged as peaceable inhabitants without their weapons. Nothing could be more admirable than the behaviour of the 33rd. I did not see a single instance of a man either of this or the regiment which followed attempting to take a single ornament or other article from the person of any of the natives. These latter thronged out of their houses, having their household goods, and salaaming to the ground, as they made their way towards the gate of the fort. I went into several of the abandoned huts; they contained nothing but rubbish. A few goats and cattle stood in the enclosures, and bags of grain were in plenty. The poor people had been well content to escape with their lives and what they could carry away on their own shoulders and those of their pack animals.

I presently met an affecting procession. These were the prisoners. Laden with heavy feet chains were at least a hundered poor wretches who had lingered for years in the tyrant's clutches. Many of them were unable to walk, and were carried along by their friends. We pitied them vastly more than who have done the prisoners sent in to us, who with commodious tents, numbers of servants, and plentiful supplies of money and food, have had a far better time of it than these poor wretches of natives. They endeavoured in every way to express their joy and thankfulness. They bent to the ground, they cried, they clapped their hands, and the women—at least such as were not chained—danced and set up their shrill cry of welcome. Very kind were the soldiers to them, and not a few gave up their search for odd articles of plunder to set to with hammer and chisel to remove their chains. There were some hundreds of huts upon the flat plateau, but not one of them bore any signs of the bombardment, and fortunately the great distance at which the guns were fired had saved the inhabitants from the injury which they must otherwise have suffered from the needless bombardment. A few people had been wounded when the 33rd had first entered, but their number was very small, and it seems incredible that out of so large a population only some ten or fifteen, and these the defenders of the gate, were killed. The huts were all of the same size and description, stone walls with conical roof, and no light except that which entered by the door. The King himself lived in a tent. His wife, or I should rather say wives, lived in a house precisely similar in shape, but larger than the other tents. One or two of these poor women were among the wounded, having rushed wildly about the place before the firing ceased, and being struck by stray bullets. It is extremely satisfactory to know that no lives with the exception of those of the actual fighting men were sacrificed. We have no killed, but have ten or fifteen wounded, most of them very slightly. One of the Punjaubees who was wounded in the fight three days before has since died. The loot obtained by the soldiers was generally of the most trifling description. Pieces of the hangings of the King's tent, bits of tawdry brocade and such like are the general total. A very few got some gold crosses, and other more valuable articles. A general order has been issued ordering all valuable spoil to be returned, but I do not imagine that the amount returned will be large. All the spoil taken, with the arms, &c., will be sold by auction in a day or two, and the result at once divided. It is known that considerable sums in dollars and gold have been buried, and a search is being instituted for them, but without, I imagine, much chance of success. In my wanderings I came upon a large tent, which turned out to be the Royal cellers. Here the natives were serving out "tedge," which I have already described as a drink resembling small beer and lemonade mixed, with a very strong musty flavour, to thirsty soldiers. There were at least a hundred large jars filled with liquid, which the soldiers call beer, and which, thirsty as the men were, was very refreshing. It was now nearly six o'clock, and the soldiers had had nothing to eat or drink since early morning. I should say that every soldier in the force supped that night upon fowl. Their value here, except when offered to us for sale, is merely nominal, and none of the people took the trouble to take them away consequently they were running about in hundreds, and gave rise to many animated chases.

Magdala itself is about half a mile long by a quarter of a mile wide, its narrow end joining the shoulder to Salanizi, and as this end is rather narrow it touches the shoulder only for about 50 or 60 yards. At this point I should say that the plateau of the fortress is 200 feet above the shoulder. Upon its otherside it would be 1,200 feet sheer down. The 33rd planted their colours upon the highest spot, and General Napier when he entered addressed a few words to the men, saying "that they had made the attack in gallant style." Of course, as it turned out, the danger was slight; but this does not detract from the way in which the regiment went up to the assault, as for anything they could tell there might have been hundreds of men concealed in the huts immediately behind the gate.

The two most valuable articles of booty which were known to have been obtained were purchased by Mr. Holmes, of the British Museum, for the nation, of the soldiers by whom they were taken. The one was one of the Royal Shields of Abyssinia, one of which I described as having been borne by Gobayzi's uncle when he visited our camp. The other is a gold chalice, probably four or five centuries old. It has the inscription in Amharic, of which the following is the translation: "The challice of King Adam-Squad, called Gazor, the son of Queen Brhan, Moquera. Presented to Kwoskwan Sanctuary (Gondar). May my body and soul be purified. Weight 25 wohkits of pure gold, and value 500 dollars. Made by Waldo Giergis." The name of the maker would seem to testify that he was either the son of an Italian, or an Italian who had adopted an Abyssinian first name. As these acquisitions are made for the nation Sir Robert has decided that they are not to be given up. He has also directed that Mr. Holmes may select such other articles as may be suited to the museum before the auction takes place.

The second brigade passed the night in Magdala, and still remain there; the first brigade returned to camp, which they did not reach until a very late hour. The aspect of the hill of Salanizi and of the plains upon it was very striking as I rode through it at night. The great emigrant population had encamped there, and their innumerable fires had a very pretty effect. During the night a very scandalous act of theft and sacrilege took place. The coffin of the late Abuna, a high priest, was broken open; his body was torn almost to pieces, and a cross set with precious stones of the value of some thousands of pounds, was stolen. It is quite certain that this act was not perpetrated by our soldiers, as they of course knew nothing either of the Avuna or his cross. Suspicion generally points to some of the late prisoners, who knew what was, it appears, a matter of notoriety, that the Abuna had purchased this extremely valuable ornament to be buried in it.

The Abyssinian expedition may now be said to be over, and has been a more perfect and extraordinary success than the most sanguine could have predicted. It would, in the face of the terrible forebodings which were launched when it was first set about, have seemed an almost impossibility that we could have journeyed here, defeated, and almost annihilated Theodore's army, obtained the whole of the prisoners, stormed Magdala—incomparably the strongest fortress in the world—and killed Theodore, and returned before the rains with a loss of only one man dead from his wounds and two or three from sickness—a loss infinitely less than would have taken place in the ordinary course of nature among so large a body of men. And yet this apparent impossibility has been, by the special providence of God, achieved; for that He has specially blessed our efforts it would be the height of scepticism to doubt. We have passed through fatigues and hardships which one would have thought must have told upon the strongest constitution. We have had wet day after day, with bitterly cold winds, and no change even of underclothing, for a month; we have had no tobacco or stimulants to enable the system to resist this wet and cold, and yet the hospitals are empty, and the health of the troops perfect. We have defeated a large and hitherto invincible army, and taken the strongest fortress in the world with the loss of one man. We have accomplished a march through a country of fabulous difficulties, destitute of roads and almost destitute of food, and with our difficulties of transport vastly aggravated by the untrustworthy reports of those sent on before, and by the consequent breakdown of our baggage train from disease, thirst, and overwork, and yet we shall leave the country before the rains. Humanly, too much credit can scarcely be given to Sir Robert Napier. He has had to overcome innumerable difficulties, which I have from time to time alluded to, but he has met them all admirably. As is often the case with successful commander he is immensely popular. The extreme kindness and thoughtfulness of his manner to all make him thoroughly beloved, and I believe that the men would do anything for him.

The expedition is now at an end. Its objects are most successfully attained, and the interest and excitement are over. We have now only our long and weary march back again. The day upon which we turn our faces homewards is not yet settled; the 20th is at present named. We shall probably halt at Dalanta for a day or two, and there it is said that Gobazye will visit the Chief, and that we shall have a grand parade.

The opinion which the natives will entertain of us upon our homeward march will be singularly different to those with which they regarded us upon our advance. Then they looked upon us as mere traders, prepared to buy, but incompetent to fight for our countrymen in chains; now they will regard us as the conquerors of the hitherto invincible Theodore, and as braves, therefore, of the most distinguished order.

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(*From the Telegraph.*)

CAMP NEAR MAGDALA, April 15.

Some weeks ago now, when the news first reached us that Mr. Rassam had been realeased from his chains, I remember saying that the beginning of the end had come. How near at hand the end itself was and in what a sudden and unexpected manner it was to be brought about, I little dreamed of at that time. Before this letter has accomplished half its journey home, all England and Europe will know that Magdala has been taken, King Theodore killed, all the prisoners released without hurt or injury, and, in fact, that one of the most difficult and hazardous undertakings ever attempted by any nation has been accomplished in a manner more successful and complete than the most sanguine of its supporters could have dared to hope for. The four days during which the force was halted on the Dalanta plain were passed in apparent inactivity, the attention and time of the Commander-in-Chief being almost entirely taken up by political matters. Our army not being nearly sufficiently large to attempt to blockade Magdala, and it being a matter of great importance that all means of escape by flight should, if possible, be closed, it was most necessary to secure the co-operation of the Wollo-Gallas who inhabit the country to the south of Magdala, and who might be of the greatest use in cutting off King Theodore's retreat, should he attempt to escape in that direction; communications were therefor entered into, and an envoy despatched to them. The Commander-in-Chief went down to the Bashilo, but made no reconnoissance beyond that, trusting, I suppose, to information obtained from the Dallanta chief, and one of the under-governers of Magdala, who had escaped a short time before, and other natives, for the details of the country between that and Magdala. Late in the evening

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of the 8th the order came to march the following morning; and the 1st Brigade accordingly moved to the site of the King's camp, on the edge of the Bashilo, a distance of about four miles. The following morning at daylight, the whole brigade marched down to the Bashilo and crossed the river the water being about waist deep. Colonel Phayre crossed over first, in order to make a reconnoissance in the direction of Magdala, and to determine upon a suitable camping-ground for the army, taking with him a troop of cavalry and a company of sappers. There are two ways by which Magdala, or rather the plateau of Arogie at the base of Falah, can be approached—namely, either by the King's-road, which follow the Arogie ravine for some distance, and then turns up to the right towards Arogie, or by taking an entirely new line over the hills intervening between Arogie and the Bashilo. For many reasons it was not considered prudent to use the King's road until the head of the Arogie defile should be secured; and the latter course was therefore adopted. A harder day's work I never went through than on the 10th of April.

The sun was very powerful, and the day close and sultry. The road led us over hills so steep that how the sappers ever contrived to climb up them laden with their arms and instruments, I do not know. Having arrived at the top of the first elevation, and obtain a good view of Falah, Salasee, and the base of mountain, the first thing to do was to look out for water; and for that purpose we wandered about from spot to spot, always hoping, but always disappointed. The troops suffered most severely from want of water, most of them not having a drop all day, and the more fortunate few getting only a very small allowance of about the most disgusting fluid it has ever been my misfortune to have to drink. I believe it was originally intended to camp the 1st Brigade on a hill just on this side of the Bashilo, but Colonel Phayre when he arrived on the high ground above Arogie, sending a message to say that he held the defile, they were moved on, and arrived above Arogie about four o'clock in the afternoon. Most fortunate it was that they were moved up, otherwise the fight on Good Friday would never have taken place, and events would probably have turned out very differently from what they have. I have heard that exception has been taken to the message sent back by Colonel Phayre, stating that he held the Arogie defile. The ground on which he then stood is the highest in the neighbourhood, and appears to me to command the whole defile, and if occupied by the troops I should have thought the road might be certainly said to be held safe. However, it is no business of mine to inquire into these matters; technically the message may have been incorrect, practically I believe that to the fact of the troops being moved up in consequence of that message we owe our unparallel and wonderful success. The campaign was really finished, and Theodore's power and spirit completely broken, by the fight which took place last Friday on Arogie; and it must be considered therefore an event of much greater importance than the actual storming of the fortress, which followed as a natural and inevitable consequence of it. The King had, it appears, had information that a small surveying party, guarded only by a few sappers and troopers, and accompanied by their baggage, was always sent on a head of the main body. When Colonel Phayre arrived on the high ground above Arogie, no other troops could be seen from Falah, except the rocket battery, which was probably mistaken by Theodore for the baggage of the escort. The 4th, the Engineers, and the Punjaub Regiment were, when the attack commenced, behind the hill and invisible from Falah. The Commander-in-chief and head-quarters staff were, no doubt, considered to be part of the surveying party; and Theodore thought he had a very nice opportunity of striking a blow and securing some booty to encourage and give confidence to his men. "There they are," he said, pointing from Falah to the small force beneath him; "There are your saddles, your clothes, your arms, and guns—go down and help yourselves." The number of men that came down to the attack has been variously estimated at from 2,000 to 5,000. I believe there must have been at least 3,500 of his bravest soldiers, led on by his most experienced and favourite chiefs. No men ever came down with more confidence to what they considered a certain and easy victory; and I venture to say no men were ever so utterly bewildered, astonished and completely demoralised as they were by the reception they met with. Finding his best and bravest men in an instant checked, and in another flying in every direction before a comparatively small portion of our force, strewing the ground with their dead, and inflicting no loss upon us in return, Theodore must at once have recognised the utter useless of prolonging the contest with any chance of eventually beating us off. His prestige was gone for ever, his soldiers had lost all faith in him and confidence in themselves. They had met men fighting after a fashion they were not used to, and using terrible weapons against which they could not stand. From that moment Theodore thought only how he might make the best terms possible for himself. Most fortunate he did not, as many supposed he would give way to despair, and in his rage destroy the helpless prisoners, and then fight desperately and hopelessly to the last. He appeare to have clung to the idea of his being a great King, and to the hope of being able to preserve his amba and even reconquer his kingdom; and he thought by unconditionally surrendering the prisoners and making us large presents of sheep and oxen he might be able to induce us not only to leave him alone, but even to assist him in punishing rebellious chiefs. It was not until the 11th, when the prisoners had been surrendered to us, and his presents refused, that he fully realised that nothing would turn us from our first decision, namely, unconditional surrender of himself as well as the prisoners, guaranteeing him honourable treatment. Then it was that he tried to make his escape, and, finding that impossible resolved to hold his fortress to the last with a few devoted followers, and die in defending it. Luckily for us, there were but some eight or ten men who remained with him. Very different work would it have been for our storming party had those four thousand men who came down to Arogie been behind the gate and hedge, as full of confidence and as ignorant of the terrible effect of our fire as they were that Friday afternoon. Magdala is a very strong position—I should say one of the strongest positions in the world—and even a few brave men would inflict a great loss upon an enemy attacking them before being overcome. No one, I think, can say that Abyssinians are destitute of individual courage. On a plain, having no dependence on each other, and exposed to the fire of shells and rockets, they cannot stand a moment before disciplined troops; but if Theodore had only withdrawn his men into Magdala, and had they met us there for the first time, with the same confidence that they displayed at Arogie, sheltered behind the gate and hedge, and at such close quarters that the inferiority of their firearms would not tell so much against them, instead of having gained an almost bloodless victory, many men's lives would necessarily have been lost. The little plateau of Arogie is situated, as I believe I have before mentioned, just at the base of Falah, on the north side of it. It is bounded on the north by a rather deep hollow or ravine, which separates it from the series of hills that lie between it and the Bashilo; on the west side is the Cukulla ravine; and to the east the ground falls in a series of steep ravines into the bed of the Mincherra torrent, up one of which the King's road passes, thence crossing the Arogie plain, rises up the steep side of Falah, and crosses the saddle between Falah and Salasee. Nothing was more unexpected than the engagement on Friday last. The surveying party had arrived above Arogie, tired, thirsty, and hot, and were most of them sitting under the bushes, wishing for water. Colonel Phayre, with the troop of cavalry, was riding about Arogie and the different slopes, looking out for a suitable camp. The Commander-in-Chief was riding about on his pony. General Stavely and the officers of the head-quarters staff were sitting down, surveying the position through their glasses, and speculating upon what Theodore might do. The rocket battery was coming up the King's road, and the men of the 4th, the sappers, engineers, and the Punjaubees were resting themselves under the brow of the hill, where, luckily for us, they could not be seen from the heights. As for myself, I had pushed my way as far as the extremely prickly nature of its thorns would allow into a laurustinus bush, and was endeavouring to shelter myself from the rain, and to soothe my nerves with a short pipe of strong tobacco. While we were thus engaged, puff went a little cloud of white smoke from the top of Falah, followed in a few seconds by the report and the whistling through the air of a round-shot, which fell at some distance to our left. We all jumped up, and gave a cheer for the first shot fired. Nothing occurring after this, I again returned to my friendly bush and pipe. Presently we observed a number of men forming in line just behind the scarp which surrounds the top of Falah, and in an instant after, like bees swarming out of a hive, out they came over the scarp and down a spur of the mountain. At the same moment another line came pouring down the King's road. It was a pretty sight to see them: the horsemen galloping in front, brandishing their spears and guns; the footmen running as if they feared we should escape them, cheering and shouting as they came. It was not until half-way down that the troops were ordered up, the shell-gun battery unloaded, and formed on a little eminence by the side of the road, and some half a mile below us; to our left, the rocket battery. Just on the right of where we stood by the time the artillery had unloaded, and before the infantry had come up, the leading horsemen of the enemy had reached the edge of the Arogie plateau, and were galloping and circling about. When the shell-guns first opened fire the enemy were out of range, most of them. The rockets, however, reached them easily, and created the greatest confusion among them. The first few shots fired were rather wild, but after that the practice was excellent. I did not see many men knocked over by rockets, but the confusion they caused was wonderful. Wherever one struck the ground, it sent the men flying in every direction. By this time our infantry had got down upon the plain, a small party of Engineers on the right, the 4th and Sappers in the centre, and the Punjaubees on the left. Throwing out skirmishers as they advanced, they drove the enemy before them like chaff before the wind, once or twice forming and firing volleys that must have astonished them. A large body of the enemy ran down a ravine to our left with a view to cutting off the baggage. Here, however, they found they had caught a Tartar, for the small baggage guard gallantly went out and drove them off. In this position they were within easy range of the shell-guns, and being crowded up in the ravine, in their endeavours to escape, the shells created great havoc among them. There was a little hand-to-hand fighting, the Punjaubees getting close up to them, and spears were thrown and swords drawn and used. One of the Punjaubees behaved very pluckily: being shot through the thigh, he refused to be carried to the rear, "because," he said, "I have only fired five rounds." He therefore sat on the ground and fired off the remainder of his twenty. Such conduct deserves reward. The enemy never stood their ground for a moment. The whole battle—if that title is not too grand for what in a European war would be but a skirmish—consisted of a rapid advance, every man running and galloping as fast as he could, and an equally rapid retreat. Directly they felt the effects of the fire from our guns and rockets, and that our troops got within good range of them, they began to pour down to the right and left toward the Cakulla and Minchena ravines, and to make their way up again to Falah, firing and skirmishing among the bushes as they went up. As soon as the enemy's advance had been checked, and they had been driven from the edge of Arogie, the rocket battery moved down on to the plain, and directed its fire on the King's road and up to the guns on Falah. Before they had fired more than a few rounds from this position, the order was given to cease firing. In the three or four shots, however, that they fired, they got their range so well that they pitched one rocket within a few yards of where Theodore was standing directing the fire of his guns. During the action he kept up a fire upon us from five guns posted on the top of Falah, two of them being directed where the Commander-in-Chief and staff stood, and the others against the infantry, and, after they had gone down on to the plain, against the rocket battery. No damage was done; but his practice with the heavy guns was better than might have been expected at such a long range, two round-shot passing very close over our heads. With shells he was not successful; they appeared all to burst at the muzzle. He fired round-shot made of lead and pewter, and one that fell near us was of stone. It rained heavily during action, which lasted about an hour, but cleared up towards the close of it. The bright gleams of sunshine that occasionally shot out, lighting up the cliffs and scarps; the black rain-storms sweeping along the valleys, the vivid flashes of lightning, and the rolling of the thunder, mingling with and drowning the noise of our feeble artillery; the Abyssinian horsemen galloping and careering about the place, which was dotted at intervals with little bodies of red-coated men moving steadily forward; the beautifully graceful curves described by the rockets, which are very pretty to look at when going from you, but which must be most unpleasant when viewed in an opposite direction—formed altogether a scene that will remain fresh in the memory of all who saw it for many a day, and repaid us well for the privations we have undergone. It was dark by the time all was over, and there was necessarily some confusion in moving the troops and the small quantity of baggage that was up down to Arogie. We bivouacked for the night near the King's road; and a most uncomfortable night it was even to those who had not been actively engaged in the action. During the whole of that long day the men had been toiling under a hot sun, over steep hills without a drop of water or a bit of shade to rest themselves in, and they finished up the day with nearly an hour's sharp fighting going in as fresh, apparently, as if they had done nothing before. After the excitement, however, reaction sets in; and wet through and tired, almost choked with thirst, and hungry, they must have passed a miserable night, yet, to their honour be it spoken, I do not believe there was a murmur or a grumble to be heard. As a precautionary measure, no fires were allowed, but fortunately the night did not turn out very cold. There was some little anxiety felt as to whether Theodore might not attempt a night attack. We might have made ourselves quite easy on that account, if we had only known what a lesson he had learnt that evening. I never dreamed at the time that the action would have turned out to be of so great importance. I looked upon it as a skirmish, just to try what we were made of, and to let us know that he really intended to fight. I had no idea that the loss sustained by the enemy was nearly so large as it turned out to be, or that more than a couple of thousand men had come down the hill. Taking the lowest calculation, they must have lost at least 450 men killed—the natives now say over 600. Add to that the number of wounded, and those that fled down on each side of Arogie and never returned, and it is easy enough to understand how it was that Theodore lost all hope of fighting us after that. He also lost on that day his favourite general, and one or two other chiefs of great importance; two chiefs were also brought in wounded the next day. The proportion of wounded to dead I fancy was much smaller than usual, owing to the fact that by far the greatest loss that they sustained was in the ravine, where they were exposed to the fire of Colonel Penn's battery, which caused terrible havoc among them, killing them in groups outright, and leaving but few wounded. I am not going to attempt to describe the horrors of a battle-field. The dead were buried principally by us, though the women came down and claimed a few bodies. They also carried off a great many of the wounded. Those that we found were attended to as speedily as possible, were given as much water as our very limited supply would allow of, and were carried in as soon as practicable to our hospital tents—a sort of treatment which I imagine they little expected, poor fellows. Whatever may be said about the injudicious wording of Colonel Phayre's message, or of the rashness of advancing so near the fortress with so small a force, I believe that in all probability the fact of the prisoners being now safe and sound in our hands must be atrributed to this mistake, if mistake it be, and I am certain that to it we owe the fact that we have taken all we wanted—the prisoners, the fortress, the life of Theodore—and have completely vindicated the honour of our country without losing the life of one single man.

From a Military Correspondent of the Telegraph.

MAGDALA, APRIL 17.

CONTRARY to the expectations of even the sanguine, and the prognostications of all croakers, the 10th April was the day on which the success of the expedition in Abyssinia may be said to have culminated. At six in the morning of that day the 1st Brigade, consisting of the A 21 Mountain Battery, Colonel Penn; Naval Brigade (rocket battery), Captain Fellows; 4th King's Own, Colonel Cameron; Beloochees, Major Beville; four companies of Native Sappers and Miners, Major Prendergast, V. C., began to wend their way from the Talanta plateau down to the Bashilo river. The 23rd Punjaub Pioneers, Major Chamberlain, had preceded them the day before, and occupied the foot of the pass, clearing the road in the difficult places. The descent by the King's road, which was followed, is exceedingly steep, like that to the Jidda; the gradient in many places is at angle of 45 degrees; immense labour has been expended on it, though but little engineering skill. It averages about 30 feet in width; but, instead of following the curves of the ravines it runs straight up and down them in zigzags. The formation is similar to that of the Jidda—huge masses of columnar basalt, with lime and sand stone cropping up between. The northern crest is a sheer perpendicular scarp, 100 feet in height; half way down is a tolerably level plateau, on which were the remains of a King's camp, probably a working party. There is only one small spring of water in the whole descent, about 500 feet below the plateau. Sir Charles Staveley, with the brigade, reached the river about ten A. M. The bed, at the point of crossing, was some 120 yards in width; and, owing to the recent rains, there was a considerable body of water in it, about 2½ feet deep. There was not the slightest appearance of any movement on the part of the enemy, and the crossing was effected with but little trouble. The reconnoitring party, under Colonel Phayre, who had preceded the Brigade, advanced up the Arojee valley for about 1½ miles, accompanied by twenty-five sabres 3rd Cavalry, under Lieut.-Colonel Loch, and the four companies Sappers. The Infantry portion of the Brigade turned off to the right a few hundred yards from the ford, and ascended a steep spur, by a path discovered by Captain Goodfellow, R. E. The Arojee gorge runs directly south for about four miles, till it reaches the plateau on which the action was fought. It is very narrow, and completely commanded on both sides by steep, almost inaccessible, hills. Had they been occupied, it would have been impossible to advance by it; hence the chief resolved on seizing the heights to the right or west. The reconnoitring party also turned off to the right, after advancing nearly two miles up the valley, and gained the plateau about a mile in advance of the head of the Brigade. The Sappers being much distressed, a search was made for water, and a small spring discovered; but, what was even of more importance, a track leading to a spur directly in front of Falah. This path was reconnoitred, and it was found that it commanded the head of the King's road running up the Arojee valley. The reconnoitring party descended to the Arojee plateau, to look for water. This plateau, which is rough and undulating, and covered with brushwood, is in the angle formed by Islamgee and Falah. It is bounded on the one side by a steep ravine which runs between it and Islamgee, and on the other by the spur above mentioned, and it is reached to the north from the Arojee valley by a very steep though short ascent. On it were the remains of a large King's camp. A small spring of water was discovered, and the reconnoitring party halted for the brigade to close up. About three P. M., Sir C. Staveley reached the spur with the Pioneers, and shortly afterwards the Chief, with a portion of his staff, arrived. At four the head of the column, consisting of the Naval Brigade, A 21 Mountain Battery and baggage, protected by two companies of the 4th, which had followed the King's road up the valley, was seen gaining the top of the plateau, below the spur. The Pioneers were immediately sent down to cover their advance, as they would have to pass in rather close proximity to Falah, and a picquet was thrown out in the direction of the enemy. At this moment, about half-past four, the first gun was fired by Theodore; and a round shot came booming over the heads of the Pioneers, showing very plainly that they were well within range. Swarms of the enemy were now seen coming down from Falah and Islamgee, by the King's road, spreading over the plateau, and crowding down the ravine next to Islamgee, endeavouring to take the battery in flank. The 4th and Beloochees were hurried up from the rear. They had been suffering grievously from thirst, but all thoughts of water were forgotten at the prospect of a fight; and they strode down the rough narrow lane from the spur on to the plateau with a light, swinging step, as if they had just commenced the march. The Naval Brigade took up position on the spur; Penn's battery opened fire on the left, and the Infantry deployed and advanced over the plateau—the Beloochees on the right, the 4th in the centre, and the Pioneers on the left. The enemy advanced with the greatest pluck possible, in no regular formation, but the leaders could be plainly discerned on horseback, well in front, encouraging their men. Then came the rolling fire from the Sniders, and a hailstorm of rockets and shells from the Naval Brigade and Mountain Battery; the Abyssinians scattered like a flock of sheep. The Infantry advanced steadily over the plateau, with the same precision as they would on a field-day at Aldershot, and the day was gained. In justice to the enemy, it must be said that, considering their wretched weapons, they fought bravely. The battery on Falah, during this time, kept up a slow but steady fire, many of the shots reaching the spur on which the Commander-in-Chief had taken up his stand, close to the Naval Brigade. About six, a heavy thunderstorm burst over the field of action, and a beautiful rainbow stretched right across the combatants. An extraordinary circle, like a halo of glory, was seen around the sun, and doubtless taken as an omen of some description by the superstitious Abyssinians. A little after six, the Naval Brigade descended from the spur, took up a position on the plateau, and opened on Falah and the fugitives who were retreating up the hill. The Mountain Battery also advanced, and opened on the enemy, who were crowded in the deep ravine to the left, and endeavouring to escape by the opposite side. By seven o'clock the guns in Falah were silent, and the last shot had been fired the troops were drawn back from the plateau, as darkness was coming on apace, and bivouacked on the north slope, at the head of the Arojee gorge. About nine the moon arose, and a watchful night was spent by every one. The 2nd Brigade, which was on the Bashilo, was ordered up, and reached the plateau about midnight.

At daybreak on the 11th every one was under arms. The 1st Brigade moved off to the spur, and all expected the order to attack, when a flag of truce was seen descending the hill, and Lieutenant Prideaux and Mr. Flad rode into camp, amidst the hearty cheers of the soldiers. They were the bearers of a message from Theodore. He acknowledged himself beaten, and said he now wished to be reconciled to the Queen of England. He, it appeared, had watched the action from Falah, and fully appreciated the result. A rocket from the Naval Brigade fell close to him during the fight, which he took up, remarking to Mr. Vladimir, one of the prisoners who was with him, that he could not fight against men who had such weapons. The two captives did not seem to have suffered much by their long confinement. Lieutenant Prideaux appeared in a very respectable uniform, which put to shame many of the costumes in camp; and Mr. Flad was in robust health. But they had to return with the message that the prisoners must be unconditionally surrendered; they described the rage of Theodore on receiving this as unbounded; and they fully expected to be cut to pieces on the spot. He however, cooled down, and about two P.M. they returned to camp with a temporising letter to the same effect as the previous message. Advantage was taken by many of the flag of truce, to visit the field of battle, to bury the dead, and relieve the wounded. Every care was taken of the wounded Abyssinians. They were brought into our hospital tents and treated with the same attention as our own men. The dead lay thick in the ravine where they had suffered from the fire of the Mountain Battery; also on the near side of the plateau, where they first met the Infantry, horses and men lay in one thick, hideous mass. Most of the wounds appeared to have been in the head, proving that with all our improvements in fire-arms the old rule of firing low ought still to hold good. The leader of the attack, Feraree Gabriel, the King's pioneer, was brought into camp mortally wounded, and died the following morning. No less than seven men were shot in endeavouring to carry him off when he fell. Our loss was twenty men wounded in all—some seven of the 4th, ten pioneers, and three Beloochees—two or three, I fear, mortally. One officer of the 4th, Captain Roberts, was shot through the arm; while, on the other side, 375 bodies were counted on the field, many prisoners were taken, and many dead and wounded men carried off in the night. In reviewing this action and its result, it cannot be denied that it was unexpected, and that it was not Sir Robert Napier's intention to engage the enemy so late in the day. He had intended to halt and encamp on the Gumbasgee plateau, some three miles from Falah, and carefully to reconnoitre the place the following day; but the reconnoitring party advanced to the Arojee plateau, and secured the head of the ravine, thereby allowing the guns to come up by that road. Moreover, Theodore took the initiative; it is said his soldiers were so eager to attack that he would not restrain them. He was, besides, under the impression that only the pioneer force was present, and that the remainder of the army was still in Talanta, and hoped that the mules and baggage would fall an easy prey into h is hands. From the confident manner in which his soldiery came on they evidently anticipated an easy victory. However premature the action may have been, there is no doubt that the result has been eminently satisfactory. No exertion on the part of Theodore could induce his men to face us again. Now, had they remained in their stronghold, and they been animated by the same spirit as that in which they made the attack, we must have suffered heavily in carrying the place, and the fate of the prisoners would in all probability have been very different. As it has turned out, nothing could be more successful and satisfactory in every way.

I have said that Mr. Flad and Lieutenant Prideaux returned to camp about two P.M. on the 11th, with an evasive reply from the King; again had they to return with the same message as before. This time there appeared little chance for them; but, to their intense surprise, on the top of the hill, between Islamgee and Falah, they met the whole of the English prisoners, on their way to camp. They had been voluntarily given up by Theodore. The following day (Easter Sunday) the whole of the remaining captives—men, women, and children—some sixty in number, came into camp with their baggage. Theodore also tried to propitiate the Chief by a present of 1,000 bullocks and 500 sheep, which were of course not received, but kept outside the pickets. On Monday morning (13th) numerous reports were flying about camp: first, that Theodore had bolted, with fifty followers; then, that he had returned; and again, that he had committed suicide. The foundation for the latter report was that on the Saturday afternoon he did make a sort of attempt at self-destruction. After praying and bowing to the ground, he placed a pistol to his mouth, expressing his intention to blow out his brains, but taking care not to pull the trigger. His attendants seized the pistol, which went off in the struggle, and prevented his injuring himself, even if he so intended. All this he brought forward in his letter to Sir Robert, calling it an interposition of Providence. Many of his chiefs signified their intention of laying down their arms. Falah had been abandoned since Friday evening, and it was evident that we should meet with little opposition. The 3rd Dragoons, 3rd Bombay Cavalry, and 12th Bengal ditto were sent for from the Bashilo, and marched round to the south side of Magdala, to cut off any who might attempt to get away in that direction. The 4th, 33rd, 45th, 27th, Beloochees, and a wing of the 10th Native Infantry, with the Sappers and Miners, marched up the hill by the King's road, and took possession of Islamgee, and nearly the whole of the guns which Theodore had been endeavouring to drag into Magdala, without opposition. Hundreds of men laid down their arms, and were sent down to the Arojee plateau, and it was discovered that Theodore had retreated into Magdala with about a couple of hundred men, and was determined to fight to the last.

It may be well here to give a brief description of the whole position. Properly garrisoned and defended, Magdala would be an exceedingly strong place, the great drawback being the want of water, of which there is only a very scanty supply on the hills. The general shape is that of three spurs, running respectively N.E., W., and S., something resembling the legs on a Manx halfpenny. Magdala occupies the south spur, Islamgee and the steep scarp of Selasee the north-east, and Falah the west. All these three places are surrounded by natural perpendicular scarps over 100 feet in height, and only approached by narrow rocky, tortuous paths. They are all connected by saddles about 100 feet lower than the positions. Falah is about 300 feet lower than Magdala, and out of range. Magdala completely commands the saddle connecting it with Selasee, which is about 1,300 yards in length and 200 across. It is approached by only two narrow entrances—the one the Kokit-bar on the north, the other Kafir-bar by the south; the former, the one by which the attack was made, is reached only by a narrow rugged path, and is barred by two narrow wickets, the outer about 200 yards from the bottom, the inner 100 yards further up. The lower one was barricaded, and protected on either side by a strong *abattis*. It was resolved to bombard the place, and the four Armstrongs and two mortars were brought up by the elephants, and got in position on the road to the south of Selasee. The two Mountain Batteries and Naval Brigade were drawn up across the Islamgee saddle facing the Kokit-bar gates about 1,200 yards distant. The inhabitants of Magdala—men, women, and children—over 40,000, were turned out and allowed to proceed down to the Arojee plateau. It was a piteous sight to see children, cripples, old men and women, crammed in one mass, struggling for very life to get away, each carrying some small portion of their household goods. Several were trampled on in the rush, never to rise again. About three P. M. the bombardment commenced, and lasted nearly an hour, when the 33rd were ordered up to storm the Kokit-bar gate. They marched across the open, covered by skirmishers, and supported by the 45th in gallant style, and when within about 200 yards from the foot of the ascent, opened a most terrific fire, feebly responded to by one or two shots from the doomed little garrison; for Theodore had been unable to get a single gun up into the fort. The storming party rushed up the narrow path, turning right and left at the top, and breaking through the *abattis*, they mowed down the few men who still stuck to the lower gate, burst through the upper one, and in ten minutes from the commencement of the assault, the 33rd's colours were planted on Magdala. Immediately on passing the upper gate, two men of the 33rd saw a man endeavouring to escape, and were on the point of firing on him, when he placed a pistol to his mouth, and blew out his brains: that man was Theodore. The tyrant did not even die a soldier's death, though it must be confessed he fought hard, and to the last gasp. The scene in Magdala, when the troops entered, baffles description: old men and women rushed up on us, heavily manacled, and kissed the ground before our feet. Nearly all we met seemed to have been prisoners, and Magdala itself one large gaol. It was a dismal place, indeed, in which to have spent two years of captivity. The King's house was but a hovel, and the carcases and filth rendered the whole town most offensive. Many of the fugitives escaped by the Kafir-bar gate, and were caught and disarmed by the cavalry. All taken with arms in their hands were made prisoners. It appeared that at the last of all only nine chiefs and ten soldiers remained firm to Theodore, and that nine of these were killed in the defence. Our own loss was only ten wounded, and one officer slightly—Major Pritchard, Royal Engineers, who, with part of the 10th company of his corps, accompanied the stormers. The 33rd occupied the fort, and the remainder of the troops withdrew to their former camp. The want of water had been severely felt during the day, but a heavy thunder shower which fell just as the assault commenced somewhat refreshed the men, though it did not add to their comfort. On the 14th the exodus commenced. The whole of the wretched inhabitants poured down the road towards the Bashilo. They must have exceeded 60,000 in number, as a thick column streamed along the road, from morning till night. They were most anxious to get to the other side of the river, as the Gallas, a neighbouring tribe, murder and plunder any inhabitant of Magdala whom they meet; and we have had some trouble in keeping them off. There appears to be little property of any value to be obtained from Magdala. A prize committee has been formed, and all loot given up. It is to be sold, and the produce divided amongst the men. A few curiosities, such as the crown and King's seal, will probably be detained as public property. Magdala has been offered to Wagshum Gobayzie, through the medium of his brother Meshasha, who came into camp yesterday, but who politely declined to have anything to do with it, probably fearing that the cost and trouble of holding it against the Gallas, to whom it originally belonged, would be more than it was worth. All the guns have been burst—22 in number, I believe; and to-day the whole place will be demolished, and burnt as far as is possible, though no destructive power that we can apply will prevent it from being one of the strongest natural fortresses in the world.

The troops have already commenced their homeward march. Head-quarters leave to-morrow, and the whole force will be assembled for a grand parade on Talanta, previous to starting for Zoula, which, it is hoped may be reached before the end of May. The captives, or rather late captives, have already left, and will proceed, under escort, in advance of the force to Zoula; but I understand some of the Germans intend to take up their abode in Adowa. M. Bardel, the Frenchman of unenviable notoriety, is in camp, but dangerously ill.

In conclusion, I think everyone connected with the expedition may congratulate himself on its fortunate issue. The fight on Friday was the turning point of the campaign, and though it was premature, and not intended, its effect was most useful to us. One cannot help repeating that, had the garrison remained in their strong position, and fought as bravely behind walls as they did in the open, our mortality bill would have been vastly increased; and though there can be no doubt that we should have carried the place, there is no saying what might have been the fate of the unfortunate prisoners. As a proof of what a monster the world is rid of I may note that, on the Thursday previous to our coming up, Theodore butchered in cold blood 307 helpless manacled prisoners, including many women and children, threw their still living bodies over a precipice, and fired on them as they lay. Other atrocities which he has committed, and which are described by the late captives, are too horrible for print. Never did a more righteous retribution fall on the head of more bloodthirsty tyrant.

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